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KENT ON SUNDAY

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IT'S WHAT SUNDAYS ARE ALL ABOUT

No. 295 May 18, 2008

LOOKING FOR YOUR NEW DREAM JOB? SEE INSIDE FOR OUR APPOINTMENTS SECTION

'What is humane and ethically right about giving a child a life sentence when there's an option available?'

Donna Zammit, Jamie's mother

IN PAIN: Jamie Zammit, aged 9

THE mother of a nine-year-old boy whose life hangs in the balance because of a rare genetic disorder has made an emotional defence of the right to conceive 'saviour siblings'.

Jamie Zammit has Fanconi anaemia, but his condition is deteriorating and he needs daily blood transfusions to keep him alive. Unless he has a bone marrow transplant soon the Bromley schoolboy could suffer organ failure or the early stages of leukaemia or pneumonia.

During the second reading of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Bill in the Commons on Monday, MPs debated one of the most controversial elements of the bill – 'saviour siblings'.

By **JENNA PUDELEK**

If MPs vote against that aspect of the bill, doctors will no longer be able to test IVF embryos to see if there is a tissue match between the embryo and the family's sick child.

Or, if necessary, check that the embryo, which fits on the head of a pin, is free of genetic disorders.

Jamie's mother, Donna, said: "It's something I agree with. Parents like Thomas and I faced with a situation like ours have to have that choice. How could it be taken away?"

It is too late for the couple to go through the IVF process, but Mrs Zammit was adamant that other parents of children with life-threatening illnesses should continue to have the choice.

The 34-year-old had a 'saviour sibling' in February, conceived naturally in the hope she would prove a perfect match for her brother.

"She is not a match, but she is loved exactly the same as all my other children," she said.

"We love her truly and there is no bad relationship between her and Jamie, they are extremely close."

The mother-of-five has faced criticism for having a saviour sibling after sharing her story

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO

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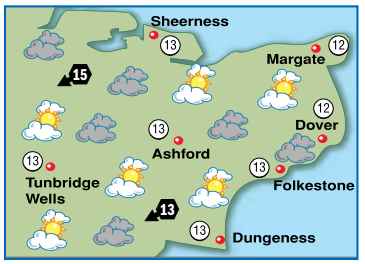
Kent today



TODAY: Dry but cloudy, although some sunshine is likely to break through from time to time. A moderate northerly breeze. Max temp 11-14C (52-57F).
TONIGHT: Dry with clear, moonlit skies and only patchy cloud around. There will be Moderate northerly winds. Min temp 4-7C (39-45F).

Around Britain

		°C	°F			°C	°F
Aberdeen	fair	11	52	London	fair	14	57
Belfast	cloudy	14	57	Liverpool	cloudy	14	57
Birmingham	fair	14	57	Manchester	cloudy	14	57
B'mouth	cloudy	12	54	Newcastle	cloudy	11	52
Bristol	cloudy	13	55	Norwich	cloudy	13	55
Cardiff	cloudy	15	59	Oxford	cloudy	13	55
Cork	cloudy	13	55	Southsea	cloudy	13	55
Edinburgh	fair	11	52	S'hampton	fair	14	57
Glasgow	fair	14	57	Southport	sunny	–	–
Isle of Man	fair	13	55	Swansea	cloudy	15	59
Leeds	cloudy	11	52	Torquay	cloudy	14	57

Sun & moon

Sunrise	4.58am	Sunset	8.46pm	Lighting up times:
Moonrise	7.42pm	Moonset	3.40am	8.46pm to 5.47am

High Tides

	today				tomorrow			
	ht (m)		ht (m)		ht (m)		ht (m)	
Dover	11.02	6.0	23.16	6.2	11.39	6.2	23.54	6.3
Margate	-	-	12.09	4.4	00.21	4.4	12.42	4.4
St Mary's	04.27	5.0	16.47	5.1	05.04	5.1	17.22	5.2

Week ahead

monday Sunny spells. max 13C min 6C
tuesday Hazy sunshine. max 15C min 7C
wednesday Clouding over. max 17C min 9C
thursday Rain at times. max 19C min 11C
friday Showers. Warm. max 20C min 11C
saturday Isolated showers. max 19C min 11C

Council will 'step on the toes' of businesses

KCC only interested in public image, says MP

EXCLUSIVE

By **JAMIE McGINNES**
jamie.mcginnes@kosmedia.co.uk

THE COUNTY council is "determined" to press ahead with controversial business activities – even if that means it will have to "step on the toes" of private firms, according to a confidential memo leaked to Kent on Sunday.

KCC's commercial services department has angered private businesses because of lucrative contracts it has won at prices the firms say they are unable to compete with.

Issues

Opposition politicians have called for more transparency over the running of the department.

Now, a document leaked to KoS outlines KCC's strategy for improving public perception of its commercial activities.

It starts by saying: "The issues surrounding commercial services over the last few months are clearly not going to go away."

The memo then describes how KCC's press office had been "keen to tackle this head-on" in January, but councillors over-ruled it because they wanted to keep the issue "low-key".

"This does not appear to have worked and a rethink is clearly in order," it concludes.

It outlines measures that needed to be achieved to improve the commercial services department's image.

One bullet point says: "Once the dust has settled for a while, get some human interest stories in the press in terms of the services delivered outside of Kent and the money this brings in – ensuring we have private companies quoted."

The four-page memo, thought to have been written earlier this month, went to senior figures on the council including Kevin Harlock, KCC's commercial services director.

Dr Steve Ladyman, Labour MP for South Thanet, claimed the memo showed KCC was more interested in its public image than the concerns of private firms.

"This is a Conservative council which is deliberately and knowingly doing down the private sector," he said.

"It's absolutely extraordinary. They are not worried about the impact this will have on the private sector."

KCC refused to confirm who wrote the memo and who it was sent to.

But in a statement, Cllr Alex King, KCC's deputy leader, defended the authority's business activities.

"The issue of commercial services has become disproportionate to the scale of its operation," he said.

"KCC spends £860 million each year in the private sector and 99 per cent of this is delivered by private and voluntary sector companies.

"We had hoped originally that this issue would be short-term, given the scale of KCC's expenditure in the private sector.

"However, this has not proved the case, Therefore, as with many areas of work we compiled a strategy to 'dispel the myths'.

"We have received endorsement from other parts of the private sector who have directly benefited from the work of commercial services, but this has not been reflected in the media coverage."

Cllr King added: "Commercial services does an outstanding job for KCC and the people of Kent and it is important these messages are out there.

"We are clear that we are not going to stop our commercial activity, although we are concerned to explain what we do and how we do it because we know that there has been concern among the business community."

He revealed that KCC is putting a 'comprehensive' question and answer section about its commercial activities on its website within a week.

• *See letters on page 37.*

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'I don't care if church says it's wrong'

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

with a national newspaper.

"People have been judgemental and malicious but no-one is in my shoes. No-one knows how much our family is suffering.

"If there are options available for others then it is only fair they have that choice. It does not matter what anyone says, you have to think about your child. I don't care if the Church says it is ethically wrong. Your child is first and foremost," she said.

The Archbishop of Canterbury likened aspects of the bill, including saviour siblings and stem cell research on embryos, to "rape, torture and blackmail".

Dr Simon Fishel, who is one of the world's leading specialists in fertility treatment and IVF, called Dr Rowan William's words "an appalling comment and misunderstanding".

"The good brought about by the birth of a tissue-matched sibling far outweighs any perceived harm.

"Experience with such cases already tell us that its detractors create imagined harm that has no bearing on reality and because of their personal, and dubious moral objections we are in danger of continuing the pain, suffering and death that could be avoided by a novel healthcare option, which also brings with it social benefit.

"Helping these families by modern medical practices, which occur in a strictly regulated context, is, to me, a mark of a civilised society," he said.

Expertise

Dr Fishel runs Nottingham-based Care Fertility, which is one of the few centres in the world that provides the expertise needed to offer the genetic and tissue testing on IVF embryos.

During Monday's Commons debate, the Conservative MP for Beckenham, Jacqui Lait, called for a more positive approach to 'saviour siblings'.

She said: "I have been struck by how negatively the parenting aspect has been perceived. All the comments have implied that the sibling will be regarded as a victim, instead of praising intelligent parenting, which could allow the child to think, 'actually, I'm doing something really good', and to feel proud of helping to keep their brother or sister alive."

The controversial bill is currently at its committee stage and MPs are due to discuss the amendments again on Monday. The Department of Health said it hoped it would have its third reading before the end of this parliamentary session in July. A date has not been set for the final vote.

Meanwhile, Jamie Zammit remains in desperate need of a bone marrow transplant and if one is not found he will have to go-ahead with a nine-out-of-10 match this summer. This means his chances of survival are lessened.

The Anthony Nolan Trust has organised a special recruitment session for potential donors at Jamie's school, Princes Plain Primary School, in Church Lane, Bromley, on Tuesday between 4-8pm.

Mrs Zammit urged people to register saying there are thousands of people around the world in need of the life-saving treatment.

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TOUR: Ebbsfleet players parade the FA Trophy after their famous win
Pictures: ADY KERRY

The Fleet return

Crowds welcome FA Trophy winners

By **TOM HOWARD**
tom.howard@kosmedia.co.uk

MORE than 5,000 fans braved the bad weather and lined the streets of Gravesend on Thursday night to welcome home Ebbsfleet United's FA Trophy winning heroes.

The Fleet squad and staff paraded the FA Trophy, which they won after last Saturday's 1-0 Wembley win against Torquay United, in front of a sea of red and white as supporters gave the team a heroes' welcome.

All the squad were present as the bus made its way from the club's Stonebridge Road ground, up the hill through the High Street, eventually finishing at Gravesend's Civic Centre, where hundreds of fans gathered to cheer the team.

At the civic centre, the squad had a reception with town mayor Ken Jones, before manager Liam Daish addressed the supporters.

He said: "Saturday's FA Trophy win was one of the best days of my life and without the fans it would not have been possible.

"To see the stands decked out in red and white was amazing – you should be proud of yourselves."

Club chairman Brian Kilcullen enjoyed the trip down to the Civic Centre and hopes the people of Gravesend will look back on the moment their team won a major trophy with pride.

Special

He said: "It is not something that happens very often so it is a special occasion and special night for everyone involved with the club.

"Winning the trophy has started to sink in now and everyone is getting back to doing their normal jobs.

"I hope people will reflect on this for many years to come. You have got to enjoy moments like this."

Fans of all different ages came out to cheer their team with young supporters queing to receive autographs from their Wembley heroes.

One deliriously happy fan, who has supported the club all his life, found the occasion hard to come to terms with.

Charlie Townsend, 71, said: "It is fantastic to see all the fans turn out for this. We had a terrific day at Wembley.

"To see all the coaches leaving Ebbsfleet to go to Wembley was a strange experience as we normally only have one coach for away games. This time there were at least 40. It was the best day ever."

• ***See page 70 for exclusive interviews with Daish, match-winner Chris McPhee and captain Paul McCarthy.***

Find more news and sport updated daily
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Brown backing for internet TV

THE Prime Minister has given his backing to local and community television channels after Bob Geldof and the county council drew his attention to Kent TV.

Funded with £1.4 million over two years from Kent County Council, the broadband television channel is operated by Ten Alps, a media company co-founded by Geldof.

In a letter, Gordon Brown wrote: "I recognise the value local television and community channels can have in bringing communities together through the provision of local news and networking information, as well as through shared cultural and sporting interests."

Peter Gilroy, KCC's chief executive, said he and Irish political activist and businessman Geldof felt it was important to draw Mr Brown's attention to "this innovative step forward in communicating with the public".

"This is broadband TV for the people of Kent and I am extremely pleased that the Prime Minister sees the value in such a service which, with its new look, is moving from strength to strength."

Stack barrier to alleviate queues

WORK has begun on a moveable concrete barrier that it is hoped will ease the problems caused by Operation Stack.

The £12.5 million Quick Moveable Barrier (QMB) has been touted as a short-term solution to the disruption caused when strike action or bad weather closes the Port of Dover or Channel Tunnel.

It is being installed between junctions 11 and 12 of the M20, with work expected to last for 14 weeks.

Once in place, highway staff will be able to quickly put it into use, allowing some London-bound lanes to be used by traffic heading towards the coast.

Operation Stack, in which parts of the M20 coastbound are closed to allow lorries heading to the Port of Dover to queue, is used when there is disruption on cross-Channel services.

It was brought in for a record 16 consecutive days earlier this year, when SeaFrance officers went on strike.

The Blairs' 'strangest' party at the Howards

CHERIE Blair has described a dinner party at the home of former Tory leader Michael Howard as the "strangest" she had ever been to.

The wife of former Prime Minister Tony Blair made the comment in her autobiography Cherie Blair – Speaking for Myself.

She was referring to a dinner party at the Folkestone and Hythe MP's Notting Hill home in the 1980s, when Tony Blair was Labour's assistant treasury spokesman and Mr Howard was Margaret Thatcher's employment secretary.

HOST: Michael Howard

Also at the dinner was Mr Howard's wife Sandra, Norman Lamont and Ann Mallalieu, a QC who went on to become a Labour peer.

Describing the event as a "diplomatic disaster", Mrs Blair wrote: "As for Tony, I had the distinct impression they viewed him as a rather quaint specimen, trying to fathom how he could possibly be a Labour Party politician at all, as anyone with his talents and sense should surely be in the Tory Party.

"Safe topics in such situations are hard to find and there is absolutely no mileage to be gained in having an ideological discussion with Michael Howard, a very able silk and member of the Tory Cabinet."

Roger Gale, the current Thanet North MP, whom Mrs Blair fought for the seat in 1983, also gets a fleeting mention in the book.

She wrote: "To take on someone of his background – a former pirate radio DJ and regional television presenter – could have been amusing, but it wasn't."

She briefly hits back at outgoing Maidstone MP Ann Widdecombe for criticising Mrs Blair for wearing a cream outfit when meeting the Pope.

"The British press had a field day and, to her discredit, in my view, the former MP and Catholic convert Ann Widdecombe chose to join in the hullabaloo, saying, 'Who does she think she is? The Queen of Spain?' No. Just a Crosby girl who got lucky."

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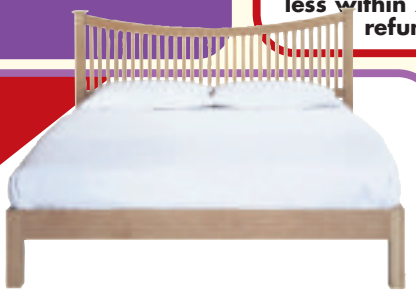

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Chinese whispers

Far East's booming economy to provide 3,000 jobs boost at new business park

THANET'S business community is hoping China is on the verge of coming to Kent.

Key decisions are expected soon which could put the China Gateway project – promising 3,000 new local jobs – on schedule to open next year.

In the pipeline is the planning application to Thanet District Council for the first phase of the project at Manston Business Park – and a decision will be thrashed out in the near future.

Visit

In fact, David Foley, chief executive of Thanet and East Chamber, said: "Following a visit to the Commercial Group Properties (CGP) office at Manston last week, I have been briefed to let members (of the chamber) know that planning permission for the first phase of development of the China Gateway is expected very shortly."

But Rob Prince, operations manager of CGP, stressed that its application was currently the subject of the full planning process and that the outcome would not be known for some time.

By **TONY PATEY**
BUSINESS EDITOR
tony.patey@kosmedia.co.uk

He added that the company continues to hold consultation meetings with residents to ensure their opinions are taken into consideration.

Half of the business park is owned by a TDC-Kent County Council joint venture, and the other half by CGP. Delegations have visited China and seen a number of big firms keen to come to Kent.

Chinamex, the Chinese government's official arm for globalising the massive country's industry, already has initial provisional agreements to come to Kent, as part of a drive to bring a number of large Chinese firms to Manston.

Meantime, Mr Foley said: "It promises an eventual 1,000 jobs on site and double that number among local suppliers or products and services. The key word here is 'local'.

"The first phase of the project has been carefully planned by local people in a local partnership of stakeholders from the public and private sectors – all of them with a long-standing commitment to Thanet.

"Companies will no longer be obliged to send their representatives to Beijing or Shanghai to view Chinese goods – Manston will provide a showcase to attract buyers to a range of hi-tech products.

"The influx of visitors from Europe and mainland Britain should provide a boost to local traders unrivalled since the heyday of seaside holidays."

He said every sector from taxis to employment agencies, hotels and related services, retailers and providers of professional services will benefit. He echoed recent political statements that this is a once-in-a-generation opportunity.

However, Mr Foley said he recognises some residents and nature groups do have anxieties about the project – and he stressed the chamber "will be the first to shout if environmental concerns are ignored or overridden."

He added: "If Thanet is to retain its status as the fastest growing area of Kent, it is projects such as the China Gateway that will help stem the outflow of young people and provide worthwhile, sustainable employment in the future."

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SETTING SAIL: Hilary Lister is to solo circumnavigate the UK coastline this summer

Hilary to blow, blow, blow her boat, gently around UK

A QUADRIPLEGIC yachtswoman from Kent is preparing to set sail around Britain this summer.

Hilary Lister, who learnt to sail at Westbere Sailing Club, near her home town of Canterbury, is only able to move her head.

The 35-year-old uses a 'sip and puff' system of straws to control the sailsband tiller. Last year she entered the record books for the second time after becoming the first female quadriplegic to successfully solo circumnavigate the Isle of Wight.

Weather permitting, she hopes to set sail from Dover on June 9, for her three to four-month journey around the UK.

She said: "I am so excited and can't wait to get going. I can't thank my team enough for the help and support they've given me.

"I'm not underestimating the huge physical and psychological challenge that lies ahead, but the chance to spend so much time on the water doing what I love is what drives me on."

Mrs Lister thanked Kent County Council for the £5,000 from the authority's sports development unit which will be given to support her challenge.

She hopes her voyage will raise awareness of disabled sailing and show that disabled people can lead exciting and challenging lives.

Mrs Lister was not born a quadriplegic. As she grew up a progressive neurological disorder, Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy, meant she gradually began to lose the use of almost all her body.

She entered the record books in 2005 when she became the first quadriplegic to sail solo across the Channel.

Trust gets teeth into oral health

HEALTH bosses are set to discuss a £1.4 million proposal to improve people's oral health and access to appointments with NHS dentists.

West Kent Primary Care Trust's board will be asked to approve the plans at a meeting on Thursday.

Steve Phoenix, the PCT's chief executive, said: "I am delighted we are able to invest in some significant improvements to health services in west Kent. We have already invested £1.8m in dentistry this year – this is additional money which will enable us to improve services in the areas that need them most."

The board will also be asked to give the go-ahead to plans to upgrade one in three GP surgeries in the area.

Members of the public will be allowed to ask questions at the end of the board meeting at the River Centre in Tonbridge, which starts at 2pm.

The PCT said the plans follow a review of NHS dentistry in west Kent and will target areas where the need is greatest.

New funding for rural rail stops

RURAL railway stations in Kent are set to benefit from an extra £60,000 of funding nationally, the Government has announced.

The money will be used to make improvements such as more seats at stations, cycle parking and better information for passengers.

Tom Harris, the railways minister, said: "This extra funding will support the small projects that can make a big difference to passengers using rural routes."

In Kent, the Medway Valley Line and Paddock Wood to Strood are eligible for the £5,000 funding.

The Association of Community Rail Partnerships, Network Rail and the Department for Transport are joint funding the scheme.

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Access to care and social services must be fairer and more affordable, say critics

Radical change needed to ease burdens of age

KENT County Council and Age Concern have called for radical changes to the way elderly and vulnerable people are cared for.

The calls follow the Government's announcement of a six-month consultation aimed at making social services fairer and more affordable.

According to the county council, there are about a quarter of a million people over 65 in Kent, a figure that will grow by more than 60,000 over the next decade.

Paul Coles, chief executive of Age Concern in Maidstone, described the situation facing many families with elderly relatives as "shocking".

Currently, people are not entitled to financial support with care costs unless they have less than £21,000 in savings.

Mr Coles told Kent on Sunday this meant many people who sell their homes to pay for care see their finances dwindling before they can get help. He said: "We should have a basic level of care no matter what people's financial situation is.

By **PHIL REILLY**
phil.reilly@kosmedia.co.uk

"If you have worked hard all your life and saved money, you can lose it all due to age and illness. They lose their life's work and their children's inheritance.

Trapped

"It is a great decision to move towards supporting people at home, but our biggest worry is making sure they're not trapped in their home and never go out.

"They may have a free bus pass but can't into town because of disabilities that come with age. The home becomes a prison."

Mr Coles said that "not a week goes by" without him being told of people receiving inadequate care in homes.

He also claimed that Maidstone had a disproportionate number of care home residents who have moved from London, which puts extra strain on local authority resources.

Kevin Lynes, KCC's cabinet member for adult care services, called for a massive increase in funding and a re-organisation of the way care is managed.

He said: "I'd like the Government to encourage a much greater join-up between the health service and social care. Health has its systems, administration and bureaucracy, and social care has its own.

"We also need much more funding. The settlement we get from Government barely allows us standard care. Many authorities have raised eligibility criteria, which means people don't qualify for care until later.

"After 18 months or two years someone who may have needed moderate care can become critical because they've not had any help."

Folkestone-based Saga has produced research showing the cost of a four-year stay in a care home doubling to more than £220,000 in the next two decades.

Owain Wright, Saga's head of long-term care funding, said he welcomed the consultation but insisted "action needs to be taken as soon as possible".

He said: "It is essential to seek professional financial advice as most people could protect an inheritance while still making funding provision for their long-term care needs."

Speaking on Radio 4's Today programme this week, health secretary Alan Johnson said: "We have a responsibility to start putting in place the solutions to the problem. We have no magic bullet. There's no quick fix and I think people in all sectors respect that."

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County leading the hi-tech revolution

KENT is to be at the forefront of new technology that could revolutionise the way elderly and vulnerable people and those with certain conditions manage their care.

The county council has already been running trials of the Telecare and Telehealth systems, but it has now been chosen as one of three testing grounds in the UK for a much wider, multi-million pound expansion of the schemes.

Telecare monitors the surroundings of patients suffering from conditions such as dementia and Alzheimer's disease.

It uses sensors to detect when vulnerable people may have had an accident or could be at risk of wandering outside in a confused state.

Neighbours or monitoring centres can then be alerted. It could also be used to trigger a recording of the voice of a son or daughter if someone tries to leave the house while confused in the middle of the night.

Telehealth is a state-of-the-art system that allows patients at risk of current or future hospital admissions to monitor things such as blood pressure and sugar levels, with the results sent electronically to their doctor's surgery.

It reduces the need for patients to travel for check-ups, while also providing peace of mind for the users.

The Government is investing £31 million in expanding the use of these tools, known together as the Whole Systems Demonstrator, in Kent, Cornwall and Newham in London.

Kent now has 250 Telehealth units and 1,000 Telecare units, which are operated in partnership with the East Kent and West Kent primary care trusts.

TESTING TIMES: Telehealth can be used to monitor blood pressure

Kevin Lynes, KCC's cabinet member for adult social services, said the money would allow an extra 1,000 vulnerable people to use each of the systems in Kent.

He said: "We have been able to develop our services with Telecare and the groundbreaking work of Telehealth has put us on the national agenda. Kent played a crucial role in shaping the White Paper for this programme and it is excellent that we are now getting funding from outside the county.

"People would much rather live as independently as possible in their own homes and this will mean far more will be able to do just that, as well as reducing the anxieties of carers and relatives."

Health secretary Alan Johnson said the measures would allow the NHS to offer the best services.

He said: "Following a rigorous selection process, Kent was chosen as a demonstrator site. As a result, many people will benefit from taking part in testing this groundbreaking technology.

"This was a tough selection process that looked at criteria including a history and commitment to working partnerships across health and social care.

"Those involved in the Kent project have every right to feel proud and I congratulate them."

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Gale demands action to save penny arcades

By **PHIL REILLY**
phil.reilly@kosmedia.co.uk

TRADITIONAL seaside amusement arcades are increasingly under threat as a result of changes in the gambling laws, according to a Kent MP.

Roger Gale, Conservative MP for North Thanet, said he had seen first hand the unfair effects of the Gambling Act on arcades with slot machines in his constituency.

The changes mean these arcades can only have a limited number of machines with top prizes of £500, with stakes also limited to £1.

However, the same restrictions do not apply to betting shops. Amusement arcades, or 'gaming centres', are allowed no more than four B3 machines, which have a maximum stake of £1 and prize of £500.

But betting shops can have as many B3 machines as they like, and up to four B2 machines, or 'fixed odds betting terminals', where stakes and prizes can be rolled over to a maximum stake of £100 and prize of £500.

Mr Gale told KOS Media that if changes in the law are not made soon many will be forced to close.

He said: "These are not dens of iniquity, you will not find kids bunking off school and spending their pocket money. They are a part of the seaside, like candy floss, sticks of rock and fish and chips.

"People providing harmless, all-weather amusements in safety for very modest prices are facing closure.

"It has an impact on the seaside generally and a severe impact on the industries supplying arcades. One company has hundreds of second-hand machines and can't do anything with them. It's a serious situation."

Scott Turner, office manager for Cain's Amusements in Herne Bay, said the change in the law had hit them hard.

"We are looking for a level playing field again," he said.

"Our customers are socially responsible. They are used to a certain type of machine and we are now losing these customers to betting shops. This is very damaging.

SLOW TURNOVER: North Thanet MP Roger Gale says new gambling laws are damaging seaside arcades

"We have our adult area but a big part of our business is family entertainment – penny-pushers and cranes. But when one part of the business is down the whole business suffers. Business is down dramatically."

In the House of Commons on Monday, Mr Gale asked culture, media and sport minister Gerry Sutcliffe: "Does the minister understand that unless he takes action now, this year, in time for this season, it will be too late?"

Mr Sutcliffe replied: "We need to distinguish between seaside arcades and high street adult gaming centres.

"The latter want more B3 machines and I am wrestling with the decision about whether that is appropriate. It is certainly not appropriate for seaside arcades."

Mr Sutcliffe also he said he would be meeting with the British Amusement Catering Trade Association to discuss the matter shortly.

News and sport updated daily online
www.kentnews.co.uk

Dockyard disaster fear

PLANS to store 2,500 tons of an explosive chemical at Chatham Dockyard have been branded "a disaster waiting to happen".

Chemical firm Arcelor Mittal Kent Wire has asked Medway Council for permission to keep ammonium nitrate at the site, leading to protests from local Liberal Democrats.

Andy Stamp, deputy leader of Medway's Lib Dem group, urged council chiefs to reject the proposal, saying it would place hundreds of lives in danger.

Cllr Stamp said he feared a repeat of the 2001 Toulouse disaster in France, when a smaller quantity of the chemical exploded, killing 31 people and destroying 50 homes.

An Arcelor Mittal spokesman insisted there was no danger.

He said: "We have designed this application in accordance with the strictest safety regulations. We are confident our application represents no danger whatsoever."

Ammonium nitrate is commonly used as fertilizer but has also been used to make explosives and can be dangerous if stored incorrectly. The council must consult with other agencies and wait for advice from the Health and Safety Executive and the Environment Agency before making a decision.

Equipment plot pair jailed

TWO men have been found guilty over their part in a £750,000 plot to conceal stolen construction vehicles and equipment.

Luke Shilling, 26, of Hart Dyke Road, Swanley, was found guilty of perverting the course of justice.

James Langley, 64, of Waldens Close, Orpington, was found guilty of conspiracy to conceal criminal property. Shilling was sentenced to 14 months in prison and Langley to five years, at Maidstone Crown Court on Tuesday.

Three men were previously found guilty and sentenced for their part in the conspiracy after a seven-week trial last year.

Police launched an investigation after 70 vehicles and parts were found in an isolated part of Swale.

Fixed safety camera sites are often backed up by mobile camera vans – this helps reduce the number of people who slow for the camera and speed up afterwards.

Find out more at **www.kmscp.org**

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What Opik-ture

A KENT Tory MP has found himself the butt of jokes in an online newspaper blog this week, after striking a pose with a Lib Dem frontbencher.

Julian Brazier, MP for Canterbury, appeared in rock climbing garb alongside Lembit Opik, the Liberal Democrat housing spokesman, in a photo sent out by the Tory to promote National Outdoor Week. They are co-chairmen of the All Party Parliamentary Group on Adventure and Recreation.

The photo was printed in Times journalist Sam Coates' blog The Red Box as a caption competition, with Mr Coates asking his readers, "What are they thinking?"

Among the responses were: "Cheeky Boys stag night proves less interesting than hoped", "Well this seems a good place to bury our careers", and "a couple of picks in a cave".

Road to cleanliness

WASH Your Hands – is the simple message of KOS Media's campaign to help hardworking NHS staff tackle superbugs.

The award-winning publisher has been making the point it is not just healthcare workers, but patients and visitors too, that can stop the spread of MRSA and Clostridium difficile.

West Kent Primary Care Trust's new infection fighting team is running roadshows for the public on beating the killer bugs.

Advice packs bearing the campaign's Wash Your Hands logo will be handed out in Dartford's Orchard Centre on Wednesday from 12.30pm.

• ***See p14 for more on the campaign.***

By **JENNA PUDELEK**
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

FILM: Protect Our Wild Animals which shows alleged aggression faced by hunt monitors

Widdecombe backs call for hunt monitors

ANIMAL welfare groups are divided over whether people who monitor fox hunting 'packs' should be given special powers.

Ann Widdecombe renewed her calls this week for hunting monitors to be licensed so that it is an offence to obstruct them.

The Conservative MP for Maidstone and Weald showed a film made by Protect Our Wild Animals (POWA) to a group of cross-party MPs, which she said showed evidence of the assaults and verbal aggression regularly faced by the monitors.

She said: "Licensing would control who is a monitor, so you don't have saboteurs and things like that."

Penny Little from POWA who presented the film along with Miss Widdecombe on Tuesday, said: "We would definitely welcome licensing because we have a very difficult time monitoring hunts.

"We have no protection at the present time so it might encourage more people to become hunt monitors because there are many who cannot face it and are afraid of the violence."

The pro-hunting lobby believes the Hunting Act will be repealed if Toory leader David Cameron, who openly supports the 'sport', wins the next general election.

A spokesman for the East Kent Hunt called hunt monitors "vigilantes" and said licensing them would be like letting "lunatics take over the asylum".

However, Barry Hugill from the League Against Cruel Sports, said the league did not agree the monitors should be licensed.

"We fully understand why Miss Widdecombe is suggesting they be licensed but the point is that they should not need extra powers – if they are behaving within the law they should be protected.

"Criminal behaviour should be treated as criminal behaviour and that is the responsibility of the police."

Hunting meets claim they use scent trails laid for the hounds to chase rather than foxes, but animal rights groups say the law is constantly flouted and animals are being killed illegally.

Nick Onslow, of the East Kent Hunt, said: "There are people who come out claiming they are monitors wearing combat gear and balaclavas."

Intimidate

He said if hunt monitors should be allowed to police the hunting law, should that mean that "vigilante groups" would be given special powers to police other laws such as drug dealing or paedophiles.

"We are not trying to intimidate anyone we are seeking to maintain our infrastructure while waiting for this iniquitous and persecuting act to be repealed," Mr Onslow said.

He added: "The behaviour of these people has been unchanged since the days when they were saboteurs.

"They believe they can gather evidence either of illegal hunting, although they have been singularly unsuccessful in doing that, or to try to intimidate them until they turn round and call names or protect themselves."

KoS asked Kent Police to provide details about the number of people that had been arrested or prosecuted since the act came into force in 2005 but was told the request would have to go through the Freedom of Information Act.

The force said this season, which is between November 1 and around mid March, there had been no arrests in relation to hunting.

Find more news and sport updated daily online
www.kentnews.co.uk

CCTV is a deterrent, but no 'silver bullet'

EXCLUSIVE

By **CHRIS MURPHY**

THERE are more than three times as many CCTV cameras in Kent than a decade ago, KOS Media can exclusively reveal.

The county's 13 district councils had 373 cameras in 1998, but now run 1,260 – an increase of 887, or 237 per cent.

But when we asked councils and the police how many convictions have been secured due to the cameras, they could not provide any figures.

Bill Moss, Maidstone's town centre manager, said CCTV was a deterrent to criminals. "If the bad guys know they are on camera, they behave," he said.

"We know who they are and we can follow them, keeping an eye on them all the time.

"And we can respond instantly if something happens. I am not worried about convictions – I am concerned about deterrents."

Shepway District Council said during 2007-08, police arrested 321 people for alleged offences including attempted murder, firearms, drugs, robbery, and theft, using images from CCTV cameras. But the authority said it has no record of any convictions following those arrests. A senior police officer in London recently told a conference that CCTV cameras have helped solve just three per cent of street robberies.

Det Chief Insp Mike Neville, head of the Metropolitan Police visual images, identifications and detections office, said the system was an "utter fiasco".

Britain has more cameras than any other European country, yet "no thought" had gone into how to use them, the officer told the Security Document World Conference.

Ian Pointon, of the Kent Police Federation, said: "I think there is an over-reliance on CCTV. We are the most watched country in Europe and only now senior officers and politicians are realising it is not the silver bullet everyone expected.

"They started to proliferate as officers were removed from the streets, which was a huge retrograde step."

Michael Parker, of anti-surveillance campaign group NO2ID said: "I am not surprised no-one wants the conviction rates to be known – it could be an embarrassment. We need to know how many criminals are convicted if these cameras are to make sense."

But Kent Police underlined the cameras' value as a deterrent. Inspector Terry Newman said: "CCTV is just one method of detecting and preventing crime. We work with local authorities to use CCTV in the best way to detect crime."

Cross-party group presses minister over A21 dualling

A GROUP of MPs and Kent's top Tory politician met with a transport minister to press for improvements to a congested stretch of road.

Greg Clark, the MP for Tunbridge Wells, led the delegation that met with Tom Harris on Thursday to call for work on the A21 to move forward without delay.

Dualling work on the road was due to begin in 2010-11 but was thrown into jeopardy after cost estimates escalated.

After the meeting, Mr Clark said: "It was constructive and the minister and his officials listened carefully to our arguments."

He was joined by Kent County Council leader Cllr Paul Carter, Tory MP for Sevenoaks Michael Fallon, Labour MP for Hastings and Rye Michael Foster, and Gregory Barker, the shadow environment minister and member for Bexhill and Battle.

The estimated cost of the proposals to dual stretches of the road from Tonbridge to Pembury and from Kippings Cross to Lamberhurst, has more than doubled, soaring from £104 million to £215m.

Mr Clark said he questioned the new costings and also impressed upon the minister the importance of the improvements to the opening of the new Pembury Hospital in 2011.

He said: "A further hold-up would show a massive lack of co-ordination between government departments and delays around the hospital could threaten lives.

"We made clear the frustration and misery the state of the roads has caused local people and the minister promised to see what he could do," Mr Clark added.

Bus hits bridge

PASSENGERS on a double-decker bus escaped injury when it became wedged under a railway bridge.

The incident happened in Chestfield, near Whitstable, last Saturday at the bridge between the Chestfield and St John's roundabouts. No-one was hurt but there was minor damage to the bridge. The bus was stuck for about two hours before being freed at 5pm.

Police are asking passengers to come forward and give witness statements. Call PC Matt Jackson on 01227 762055.

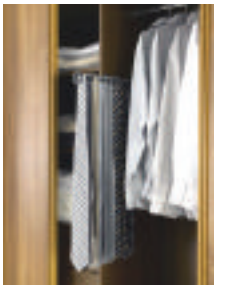
Where's Percy?

POLICE are appealing for information after a pet tortoise was stolen from a back garden.

Percy, a male tortoise, is described as being the size of a loaf of bread, with a shell that protrudes over its head. Its elderly owner has had Percy for more than 36 years.

The pet was taken from a back garden in Bishops Oak Ride, Tonbridge, overnight on Saturday, May 10.

Contact police on 01732 379217 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.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Police release picture of man in armed raid

FILMED: CCTV footage of the robbery

THE hunt is on for an armed robber who held up the Asda supermarket in Sittingbourne.

The man, who was carrying a gun, walked into the store in the Trinity Trading Estate at 10.40am on Tuesday and demanded money from two security guards.

He then drove off in a silver Rover 400 which was later found in the area of Kingsmill Close.

It is not known how much money he got away with or if the gun was real.

The man is white and in his mid 40s, with a black moustache and beard.

He was wearing a black motorcycle helmet with a white stripe, as well as dark trousers, a pale blue shirt with white collar and cuffs and a blue sleeveless fleece.

Police have released a CCTV image of a man they wish to speak to in connection with the robbery.

Anyone with information can call the police on 01622 690055 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

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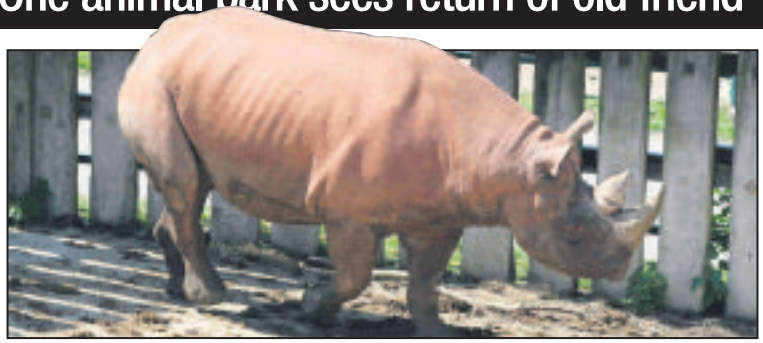
One animal park sees return of old friend



Endangered pair now on safe ground

A KENT zoo has welcomed the return of one of its black rhinos after five years and hopes the father-of-four will continue to breed.

By **JENNA PUDELEK**
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

Kingo was returned to Port Lympne Wild Animal Park, near Ashford, from Paignton Zoo in Devon. He has sired four calves since his birth in 1983.

Black rhinos are rare, with only 3,000 remaining in the world today, after they were nearly hunted to extinction in the Serengeti during the 1960s and 1970s.

Two of Kingo's calves, Limpopo, six, and Laikipia, four, were returned to the Tanzanian national park last year by the Aspinall Foundation, the charity that manages Port Lympne.

Scientists

The charity worked with the Tanzanian government and a private reserve within the Serengeti to return the animals, which are the first-ever captive-born rhinos to be re-introduced to the area.

Paul Beer, head of the rhino section at Port Lympne, said: "We know that Kingo has a good success rate in siring calves and we are hoping that he will continue to breed with one of our female cows."

Meanwhile, the birth of a rare Scottish wildcat kitten at a Kent conservation park has been hailed as a boost to the ailing population of the species.

Conservationists at the Wildwood Trust, near Herne Bay, said there are only around 400 of the wildcats left in the world and scientists have warned that they could become extinct in our lifetime.

The kitten, which was born last month, belongs to two pure-bred wildcats, Flora and Hamish.

A Wildwood spokesman said: "The kitten's birth will help boost the increasingly important captive population in the UK, which could save the species from future extinction."

The wild species of feline resembles a very muscular tabby cat, but are in fact 50 per cent larger than a domestic cat.

They are unique to Britain and have lived here for more than two million years, but they are now increasingly rare, though they roam across the Grampians and Northern Highlands.

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Canterbury College

while another gets new arrival

Picture: LES WILLIS

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST: Kingo (above left) who has returned to Port Lympne Wild Animal Park and Wildwood's baby wildcat (above)

Goal poacher turns game keeper at zoo

ON ME HEAD: Sir Geoff Hurst with the gorillas at Port Lympne

A NATIONAL hero from England's 1966 World Cup-winning team joined budding young football players for a tournament at a Kent wildlife park.

Sir Geoff Hurst greeted fans at the Congo Cup, which raised more than £1,000 for a conservation project for gorillas in the east African country run by the Aspinall Foundation.

Eddie Hill, who organised the tournament at Port Lympne Wild Animal Park, near Ashford, last weekend, said: "This tournament, in its second year, was a great success and we are grateful to sponsors McDonald's and especially to Sir Geoff for attending and making it a special day for everyone who loves the game of football.

"We also must say a big thank you to the Charlton Athletic representatives for giving up their time to referee the matches."

Sir Geoff is McDonald's director of football and he spent time talking to some of the 1,000 players from 100 of the county's youth teams. Each player received a medal, a certificate and a free day pass to the animal park.

Ashford Borough's under 11s, 13s and 14s teams won the tournaments in their age groups.

Homes get £10m boost

COUNCILS across the county are to receive close to £10 million to spend on improving homes.

Tonbridge and Malling, Tunbridge Wells, Sevenoaks, Maidstone, Ashford, Dartford, Gravesham and Medway councils have been jointly awarded £9.75m by the South East Regional Housing Board.

The money will be made available over the next three years for residents to apply for.

Jill Anderson, Tonbridge and Malling's cabinet member for housing, said hundreds of residents in the district could benefit from the money.

She said: "By adding funding for renewable energy sources to our list of grants, we can encourage people to help protect our environment and save money at the same time."

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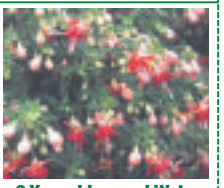

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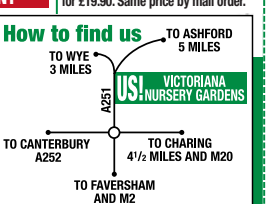

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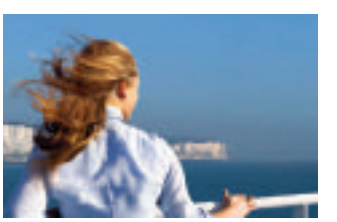

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Crime wave on force's horizon

HIGH-SPEED: The new boat was launched this week

A NEW police boat has been launched to tackle illegal immigration, drug and people trafficking, and terrorism.

By **JENNA PUDELEK**
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

The 53ft Alexandra III was officially named in a ceremony this week, after £150,000 was invested into its refurbishment from last year's increase in police council tax.

Michael Fuller, Chief Constable of Kent Police, said: "This boat will be invaluable in increasing our capability and visibility around the Kent coast and in the county's waterways.

"It will dramatically enhance the work we already do with our colleagues in other police forces and agencies and help prevent the use of our coast and rivers for organised crime and terrorism.

"With its crew, it will act as a virtual floating police station and provide protection and service to everyone in Kent. It will also patrol the expanding Thames Gateway and the wider maritime community."

The boat, which was refurbished last year, will be based in Sheerness and can carry up to 16 people such as firearms teams and other police specialists.

Ann Barnes, chair of the Kent Police Authority, officially launched the vessel in a champagne breaking ceremony at the Port of London Authority in Gravesend on Wednesday.

"Those who live or work by the sea will hopefully notice a police presence on the waters," she said.

"In 2008, an effective police force has to be able to stretch from dealing with localised problems to international organised crime and terrorism."

A crew of three will man the boat, which has state-of-the-art technology allowing those on board to identify other vessels on the river and can travel up to 27 knots.

It is the first time the force has had a marine boat since 1995 and it will join the two high-speed rigid hull inflatable boats currently used for intercept work. Kent has more coastline than any other county and acts as a maritime gateway into Europe.

Superintendent Andrew Lyttle, who led the boat project, added: "This represents three years of planning and I'm delighted that the marine boat is going to add so much value to our policing effort.

"It will play a key role in allowing the police to mitigate any risks that we manage of behalf of the public."

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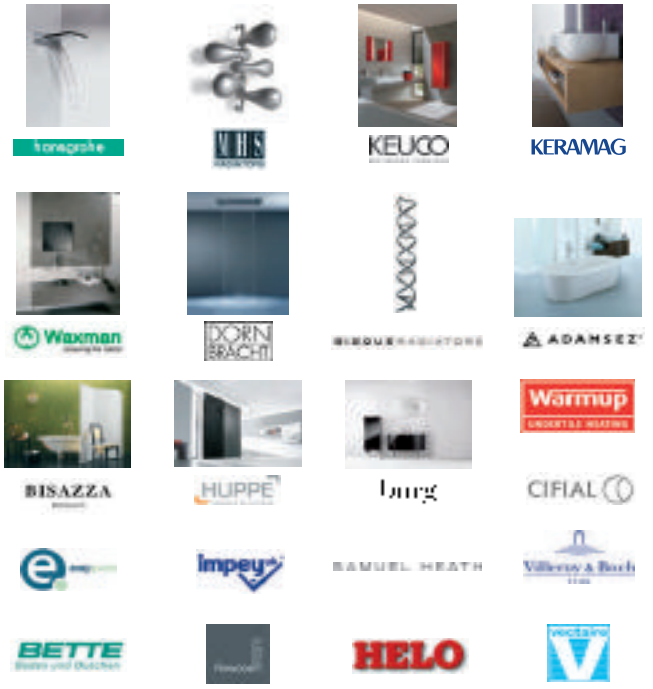

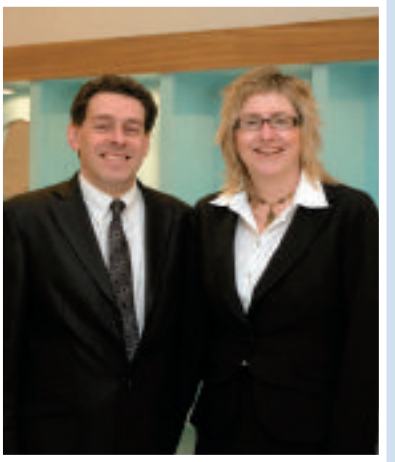

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Nurses' baroness finds that small is beautifully clean

By **JENNA PUDELEK**
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

HOSPITAL board meetings need to focus more on patient care to avoid repeats of the superbug outbreaks in west Kent, one of the country's leading spokeswomen on health has said.

Baroness Audrey Emerton of Tunbridge Wells and Clerkenwell, was awarded a life peerage after a long and distinguished career in nursing.

She visited the independent Benenden Hospital, near Cranbrook, to mark National Nurses Day on Monday.

The annual celebration marks the birthday of Florence Nightingale.

Baroness Emerton said: "She died 98 years ago and yet we still celebrate her birthday – the reason is her legacy.

"It is because of her basic standards in nursing, hygiene, nutrition and care. Florence Nightingale invented hygiene during the Crimean War. She set up the foundation of the nursing profession."

Hygiene, comfort and compassion for patients were the cornerstones of Nightingale's Notes on Nursing and remain essential today, she said.

KOS Media is running a campaign to promote good hygiene practices in hospital and healthcare centres across Kent.

Baroness Emerton agreed hygiene was hugely important if infection rates of superbugs such as MRSA and Clostridium difficile were to be kept down.

She spoke to nurses at Benenden about their work and congratulated the hospital on winning Top Independent Employer in the recent Nursing Times awards.

The hospital has not had one case of MRSA or C diff since 2000, a hospital spokeswoman said.

Asked what she thought the key to its success was, Baroness Emerton said: "Well, I suppose small is beautiful.

"The place is spotless and hand hygiene is available for everyone. What is interesting is that their cleaners are all their own employees. They are not contracted. The ward sisters can control their environment."

She said it was difficult in the NHS for modern matrons to have the same control over cleaning staff because often they are not contracted to the hospitals themselves.

Baroness Emerton said she had been running her own campaign for the past four years to make high quality care a priority, from the member of staff treating the patient right up to the boardroom.

She said that was the problem at Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust's hospitals, where 90 patients died in two C diff outbreaks.

"Management did not know what was going on. My campaign is to re-establish a care line from the patients to the board and back again."

Her research showed that in 60 NHS board meetings only 14 per cent mentioned patient care rather than financial targets.

Baroness Emerton is contributing to Lord Darzi's review of the NHS and she spoke about nutrition as an example of her campaign in the House of Lords on Thursday.

BEDSIDE MANNER: Baroness Emerton chats to Benenden patient Emily

CLEAN SAFE HEALTHY
KOS media CAMPAIGN 2008

News and sport updated daily online
www.kentnews.co.uk

Trusts promise action on patients' survey findings

THE experience of patients at two Kent hospital trusts was among the worst in the country, according to a survey by the health watchdog.

Nationally, the Healthcare Commission found that people treated in NHS hospitals were generally happy with their care, but there have been increased concerns over cleanliness and hand hygiene.

At Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust, only 45 per cent of patients said that, as far as they knew, doctors "always" washed their hands between patients.

A spokesman for the trust said superbug rates had fallen dramatically.

Asked whether patients should query whether doctors and nurses had washed their hands, he said: "That is one of the things that we encourage."

KOS Media's Clean, Safe and Healthy campaign promotes hand-washing with alcogel and soap and water to help in the battle against superbugs.

Glen Douglas, the trust's chief executive, said: "We have a problem – which the report identifies – with too many patients being cared for in mixed-sex wards."

He said this was because of the old fashioned open wards at the Kent and Sussex.

"This is one of the reasons we are delighted about the new hospital being built at Pembury.

But we will continue to work hard, within the building's restraints, to put an end to mixed-sex wards."

Medway NHS Foundation Trust also performed badly, with 55 per cent of patients sleeping in mixed-sex wards.

A spokeswoman said: "Patients need dignity and privacy and our longer-term building projects will see the introduction of single, en-suite rooms and new facilities which will greatly improve the patient experience at Medway."

Boxing hero Barry takes the fight to polytunnel plans

BOXING legend Barry McGuigan is gearing up for his biggest fight in many years – against a planning application.

Mr McGuigan, who lives in Dargate, near Faversham, is one of the villagers objecting to plans for a 67-acre polytunnel on farmland near the A299 Thanet Way between Faversham and Whitstable.

The 18ft-high plastic tunnel at Hernhill Nursery would be used to grow strawberries and could be given the go-ahead by Swale council planners later this month.

The Irish former featherweight world champion said he was one of about 20 residents to send formal objections to the council on a number of issues.

He told KOS Media the polytunnel would be built on an area of beautiful countryside close to the route of a walk he had volunteered to promote on behalf of the council.

He said: "It's a beautiful part of the countryside and I would not have contemplated promoting the walks if I had known this was on the horizon.

By **PHIL REILLY**
phil.reilly@kosmedia.co.uk

"This is arable land that will be covered in plastic. There is a shortage of grain in the world – we need arable land. Having strawberries 12 months a year is a luxury.

"I'm not some nimby. I've lived here for 20 years and this is one of the worst things [the council] has contemplated here. I'm very, very vexed."

Mr McGuigan also claimed that of the 200 jobs expected to be created by the scheme, the majority would go to low-paid migrant workers and give no economic benefit to the community.

"It will just be good for one man, the owner," he added. "If a lot of local farmers were benefiting I wouldn't mind, but this is ridiculous. There is a 17th century cottage right across the road, the owners must be so upset."

Jason Davies-Baker, site manager for Moneypeaks, the company proposing to build and operate the polytunnel, said it hoped to fill many of the jobs with local workers.

He also insisted the company respected the views of residents and wanted to work with them.

He said: "We are already listening and as a result our plans address issues of visibility, noise, glare and litter.

"The investment we are prepared to make to address these issues demonstrates our long-term commitment – this is also why we want to secure planning permission even though it is not strictly required.

"At a time when many rural businesses are failing, we represent a success story.

"We are also further helping to reduce the UK's reliance on the import of foreign produce. Who would want to imagine a time when the only strawberries available to the British public came from overseas?"

A spokeswoman for Swale Borough Council said it did not wish to comment as the application has not yet been considered.

SECONDS OUT: Barry McGuigan is fighting plans for a polytunnel near his home

News and sport updated daily online
www.kentnews.co.uk

'Outdated attitudes' hindering sprinklers in homes

KENT Fire and Rescue Service is working with architects to make sure new homes in the South East are built with sprinkler systems.

The service has been consulting with the Royal Association of British Architects (RIBA) as part of its Safer with Sprinklers campaign.

The campaign promotes the use of sprinklers in the homes of vulnerable people, including the young, elderly and disabled.

The service claims to have the backing of a number of key decision makers, including council planners, chief executives and leaders.

Steve Griffiths, the assistant director of community safety, addressed RIBA members from Kent, Sussex, Surrey and Guernsey on Tuesday.

He said: "The house-building industry has an outdated and incorrect image of sprinklers; claiming they go off accidentally, are ugly in design or are expensive to install.

"We aim to dispel these myths and encourage support of their use by pointing out some of the design freedoms and flexibilities that could be available, such as fewer fire doors.

"We are urging all building professionals to assess and develop the use of sprinkler systems as a way of achieving safer communities while still obtaining greater design freedoms and even funding."

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Improving travelling in Kent

Your one-stop guide to information and advice on travelling

Kent County Council

1stCar aims to help young drivers

Getting behind the wheel for the first time is exciting for new drivers of all ages – it means more freedom and independence. However, it also means venturing onto the roads without the benefit of experience.

Statistics show that one in five new drivers will have a crash in their first year of driving, possibly resulting in injury and, in some cases, loss of their licence too.

That's why the Kent and Medway Safety Camera Partnership is giving away free copies of 1stCar – an independent magazine aimed at new drivers. By giving drivers access to the magazine, we want to make them aware that they can still enjoy driving and be aware of how to avoid becoming a statistic at the same time.

The magazine is full of useful tips and information including how to keep your licence, why drink, drugs and driving don't mix; the best gadgets; the best cars and bikes; how to cut the cost of insurance; letters from readers, and chat from TV's Fifth Gear presenter Jonny Smith.

New drivers can get hold of a copy by emailing katherine.barrett@kent.gov.uk, by logging on to www.kmscp.org or by writing to Communications Team, Kent & Medway Safety Camera Partnership, Phoenix House, Maidstone, Kent ME16 8PX.

See www.KentTV.com for up-to-date travel information

A crash is no accident!

Most of us refer to incidents on the road as 'accidents' but the reality is they are crashes – they happen for a reason.

The Oxford English Dictionary defines accident as 'an event without apparent cause' but that cannot apply to road crashes – every one happens for a reason. Vehicles don't just crash into things.

In the lead up to a crash, something has gone wrong with the vehicle, the road, or the driver. Research shows that a small proportion of crashes are attributable to the vehicle or road, but 95% of all crashes involve some form of human error from at least one of the drivers.

As a driver, you wouldn't deliberately seek to cause a crash, but there is still a cause and it's normally taking an unnecessary risk – where there is a cause, it's not an accident. Most causes can be foreseen and therefore should be avoidable.

So why does it matter if we call them accidents or crashes? Underpinning the work of the Kent Highway Services road safety team is the need to remind drivers they have a responsibility for their actions and to be aware of the consequences that bad driving, will have. Using the term 'accident' is almost a 'let off' for bad driving, as it suggests that nothing could have been done to prevent it happening, but crashes will be avoided if we drive more carefully.

Road crashes account for over 700 serious and fatal injuries each year in Kent and each crash is a life changing or life ending event. It's no longer right to call them accidents – every driver needs to recognise their part in keeping Kent's roads safer.

For more information on how we keep Kent's roads safer, visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways or call 08458 247 800.

Trees go high tech!

Did you know that Kent Highway Services looks after half a million trees across the highway network in Kent?

We carry out regular inspections of all the trees across the network, but it's still a huge job to keep track of their condition in order to keep the footpaths and roads safe.

To make this task more efficient, the team of arboricultural inspectors has recently introduced new technology in the form of tablet PCs to record information about our trees. The project will be carried out as part of current routine inspections and may take up to five years to complete. The end result will be the first ever comprehensive database of the location and work history of every tree belonging to Kent Highway Services.

The information that we gather will be maintained in a central database and will be accessible to our Contact Centre, so if you phone in with a query about a tree in your area, we'll have all the relevant information to hand.

As the database builds, our Contact Centre will be able to access current information about trees and any inspections will be managed using the new technology to make the enquiry process more efficient.

The system will also allow us to view patterns in the number of calls about particular trees, or in particular areas, which will help us to forecast tree inspection frequencies and works that may be required in the future. With this new technology, we're aiming to make the most of our county's trees and maintain a safe highway at the same time.

You can find out more about the work we do by contacting us on 08458 247 800 or visiting our website at: www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Travel Update

Kent Highway Services

Below are roadworks and events that may cause some disruptions. Please remember that these are planned works and other emergency works may be required.

Canterbury	**Start** 19.5.08	**Finish** 23.5.08	**Road** Bullockstone Road, Herne Bay	**Reason** Temporary traffic lights - carriageway works
Tonbridge	**Start** 19.5.08	**Finish** 24.5.08	**Road** Birling Hill, Snodland	**Reason** Road closure - telecoms works
Gravesend	**Start** 19.5.08	**Finish** 30.5.08	**Road** Lower Higham Road, Higham	**Reason** Road closure - telecoms works
Tunbridge Wells	**Start** 19.5.08	**Finish** 30.5.08	**Road** A264 Pembury Road, Tunbridge Wells	**Reason** Temporary traffic lights - carriageway works
	19.5.08	30.5.08	B2160 Maidstone Road, Matfield	Road closure - new energy supply

For details of other roadworks in Kent please visit www.kent.gov.uk/travel

For more information, please call 08458 247 800 or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Close encounters of Kentish kind

By CHRIS MURPHY
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

NEWLY-released government documents reveal details of sightings of UFOs over Kent, most of which were reported to the former RAF base at Manston.

The Government has released the files in an effort to persuade conspiracy theorists that there is no X Files-style cover-up about alien contact.

One report says that in November 1981, a "bright, small flashing light" was seen at Warden Point on the Isle of Sheppey.

It adds: "UFO stationary, then disappeared suddenly" over the sea.

In February 1982, an "aerial phenomena" was seen in the skies over Brenchley, near Tunbridge Wells.

It was "two flashing red and green lights" and lasted for 45 minutes. The report says the lights were "stationary and then disappeared".

On November 25, 1981, a man in Gravesend saw a "bright light bursting into smaller stars on striking ground" while driving on the A2 towards Chatham.

Then on November 27, someone in Istead Rise, near Gravesend, saw a "single, steady, very bright, round white light" in the sky.

On January 12, 1982, RAF Manston in Thanet received a report of a "very bright light … with red orange and blue lights moving around" south of Ramsgate.

In February that year, a motorist in Bishops Way, Maidstone, reported "at least 12 lights pink/white, size of four to five helicopters, disc-shaped, two white lights at front". The UFO "hovered" above the bridge before "moving away down river".

ALIEN NATION: 'Can you tell us how to get to RAF Manston, please?'

UFO author Timothy Good lives in Beckenham. He said: "I do believe in UFOs and do believe the MoD when they say 95 per cent of sightings can be explained – I am more concerned about the other five per cent. These released documents are interesting, but there is nothing from MI6, GCHQ, Naval Intelligence, RAF or Army Intelligence. There is plenty more being hidden from us."

The author of Top Secret and Need to Know, added: "There is a lot of rubbish in these files. I was told in 1978 that the government had a secret £11 million budget just for that year to investigate UFOs."

He said: "Unexplained reports amount to tens of thousands by highly intelligent personnel.

"There have been more than 5,000 reports that we know about from pilots, both military and civilian. The ones we don't know about are still withheld, even going back to the 1950s."

The MoD X Files are available to the public from the National Archives website and cover 1978 to 1987. The eight released files are part of almost 200 to be made available over the next four years.

Dr David Clarke, an expert in UFO history and a lecturer at Sheffield Hallam University, admits conspiracy theories about aliens are "very difficult to disprove".

He said: "I doubt the disclosure of these files will convince those who believe there is an official cover-up.

"Inevitably, some have already dismissed this release as a whitewash. For them the 'truth' still remains out there, hidden no doubt in more top secret files."

An MoD spokesman said: "We only look at these reports to see if UK airspace has been compromised.

"We don't have any information or opinion either way on whether they are UFOs or not."

To look at the reports, visit http://ufos.nationalarchives.gov.uk.

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Free bus pass extension

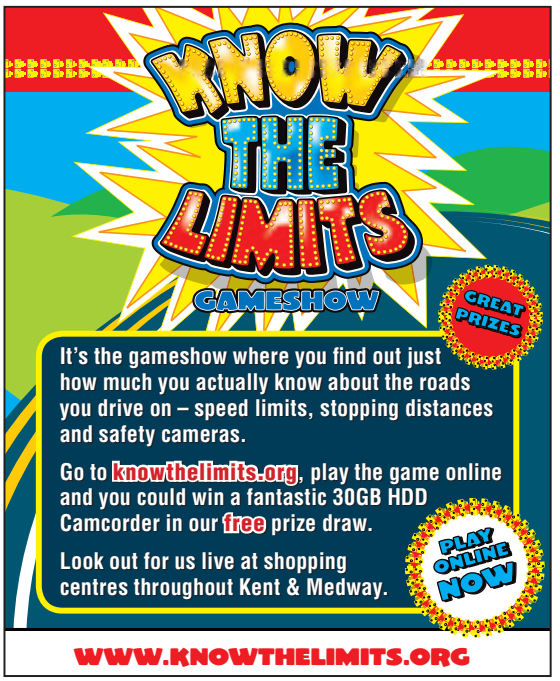
DISABLED people over the age of 60 will soon be able to use their free bus passes from 9am.

Currently, the passes are only valid from 9.30am, but Kent County Council has now set aside £120,000 to pay for an extra half hour.

The bus pass schemes are run by district and borough councils and the money will be used to allow them to extend the programmes.

The change will come into effect on June 30.

Keith Ferrin, KCC's cabinet member for highways, said: "Making the pass valid from 9am will make a big difference. It will mean over 60s and disabled passengers will be able to go to hospital or doctor's appointments earlier and travel into town to shop at a more convenient time."



Our display of gratitude to Gurkhas

FUNDS: Mary Cox with a model of the statue

A STATUE is being put up to mark the 60th anniversary of the Queen's Gurkha Engineers.

By **CHRIS MURPHY** and **JAMIE McGINNES**

The Maidstone Trust, which has Prince Michael of Kent as its patron, is raising £15,000 for the bronze statue, which will stand on a granite plinth in the courtyard of Maidstone Museum.

Sculptor Mary Cox has been commissioned by the charity to make the statue, which will depict a Gurkha engineer sergeant carrying a rifle.

Around 200 Gurkhas are based at Invicta Park Barracks, as part of 36 Engineer Regiment.

Cllr Dan Daly, a Maidstone town councillor, is vice-chairman of the Maidstone Trust.

He said: "The Gurkha engineers have been with us for a long time in Maidstone and I wanted to give them something back.

"There has been so much public unrest about the way they have been given a bit of a dirty stick over the years. Wherever I go the public always speak highly of the men, both past and present. They are dependable and the sort of people you would want next to you in any situation."

Cllr Daly said that if a minute's silence were held for every Gurkha to have died in World War Two, we would have to remain quiet for more than two weeks.

The statue will be 3ft 6ins tall and stand on a 4ft plinth. It is due to be unveiled on September 27.

Gesture

Cllr Daly said: "The money is coming from a variety of sources including the judiciary, business and the people of Maidstone.

"Around a third of the £15,000 needed has been raised so far and we are only two weeks into the fundraising."

He pointed out that Gurkhas have been involved in community projects like building a bridge over the River Len and ponds.

Chhatra Rai, general secretary of the British Gurkha Society, said: "We are aware of this project and are looking to make a small donation towards it.

"It is a great gesture and shows some recognition of what the Gurkha has done for the British."

He added: "They are known as loyal fighters and erecting a statue like this shows the public understand what these men are about.

"They have been treated badly by the Government, so it is extra special for a permanent statue is erected in the name of Gurkhas everywhere."

Recruited from Nepal, the Gurkhas have been part of the British Army since 1816.

The 1st Battalion The Royal Gurkha Rifles has its garrison in Brunei, whereas the 2nd Battalion is stationed at Folkestone's Shorncliffe Barracks.

Brigadier Iain James, Commanding Officer of 2 (South East) Brigade, is responsible for both units. He is based at Shorncliffe Barracks.

The 2nd battalion was given the freedom of Sandgate earlier this month.

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Drug boffin's USA Hall of Fame award

HONOUR: Dr Ken Richardson, right, is inducted into the Inventors' Hall of Fame

By **JENNA PUDELEK**
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

A PFIZER scientist who discovered a drug that has saved millions of lives across the world has been inducted into America's Inventors' Hall of Fame.

Dr Ken Richardson led a team at the pharmaceutical company's European headquarters in Sandwich that developed a groundbreaking anti-fungal medicine.

Dr Richardson, 68, who retired from Pfizer 10 years ago, said: "Before ours came along, the only drug available had to be given by intravenous infusion, very slowly in hospitals for five hours a day, every day.

"It had terrible side effects, so much so that people refused it even though the infection was going to kill them.

"With this drug you pop one pill once a week and the infection goes away with no side effects."

Patients with Aids, different types of cancer, severe burns, transplant recipients and others with weakened immune systems have been saved worldwide by fluconazole, which is also known as Diflucan.

Dr Richardson, who lives in Birchington, and his team's research began in the 1970s and led to the release of the drug in 1981.

Breakthrough

Asked whether he knew the huge life-saving potential of the drug at the time, he said: "As a scientist you always dream of making some enormous breakthrough – that's what keeps you going. But not many people come anywhere near.

"What we were trying to do was get a drug to treat fungal infections in patients with damaged immune systems.

"That was hugely worthwhile but it would have treated perhaps up to 300,000 patients a year.

"Then came Aids. No-one could have predicted it and every single Aids patient in the world gets fungal infection." Pfizer estimates about 20 million people a week are taking the drug.

Dr Richardson was born near Nottingham and left school at 16 to become a laboratory assistant.

He studied for his first degree, from Nottingham Trent University which was then still a polytechnic, by doing evening classes, before being awarded his PhD from the University of Nottingham in 1968.

Dr Richardson worked with Nobel prize-winning chemist Robert Burns Woodward at Harvard before joining Pfizer in 1969.

His work on the anti-fungal drug has also received the UK Society for Drug Research Award for Drug Discovery. He has also been presented with an OBE by the Queen.

Dr Richardson keeps up with the goings-on at Pfizer through his daughter and son-in-law, who both work at Sandwich.

"I'm retired and I've been working on being a granddad and enjoying myself, so this was quite a nice surprise," he said of the most recent award, which took him to Akron, Ohio, for the ceremony on May 3.

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LEFT: Red building by Ken Blanshard from Kennington

RIGHT: Otto Wheeler gets ready to shoot in Liz Garnett's studio in Brabourne Lees

FAR RIGHT: A pot created by High Halden's Neville Langley

Artists inviting the public to

Doors wide open for art opportunity

Kent Highway Services

For information and advice on travelling in Kent, go to page **16**.

For all our Traffic Regulation Orders, please go to pages **49-50**.

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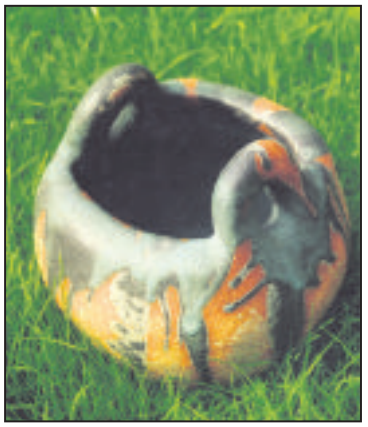


their studios

ARTISTS across the county are throwing open the doors to their studios and allowing the public a peek inside, ***writes Phil Reilly***.

Hundreds of professional and amateur artists working in a number of media are taking part in South East Open Studios throughout June.

The annual event is in its 12th year, but this time there are more artists taking part than ever before.

Liz Garnett, a photographer from Brabourne Leas, said the events allowed people to see a wider variety of art in a much less formal environment than a gallery.

Better than gallery

She told KOS Media: "It allows artists to show off a much greater amount of work than they might be able to in a gallery. They can show work from maybe 10 years ago as well as current work and works in progress.

"For people who want to start investing in art it is an opportunity to build a rapport with an artist or a group of artists. They will be able to get to know the artists and how they work.

"Each one will be different and you can see a whole range of different art forms."

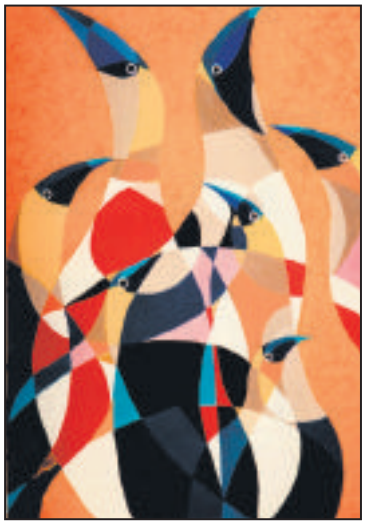
Mrs Garnett said she would be opening up her dining room as well as her studio to give people a comfortable way to view her work.

She added: "I will have some work on the walls and also lots stacked up, and I will also be selling cards and merchandise.

"It's a much more relaxing way to discover art. People can find galleries a bit scary, here you don't have to stand on ceremony, you can ask any number of questions and no question is too silly."

South East Open Studios runs from June 6-22. Details of where and when individual artists are opening up their studios can be found at www.seos-art.org.

Find more news and sport updated daily online www.kentnews.co.uk



DIFFERENT: Rose Colbridge's abstract birds

WELCOME: Vikky Furse at work in her studio in Smarden

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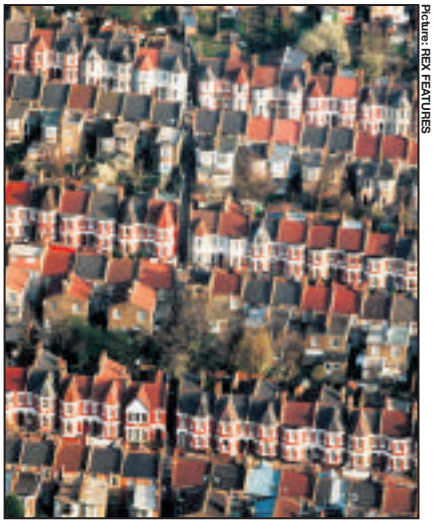

Picture: REX FEATURES

SQUEEZE: Possession orders are rising in the region

MORTGAGE possession orders are up nine per cent in the South East, worrying figures issued by the Ministry of Justice reveal, ***writes Chris Murphy***.

Business leaders in Kent say the report is evidence that the credit crunch is clearly having an effect on people's lives.

The ministry said the number of orders made by the courts in England and Wales at an early stage of the repossession process rose 17 per cent in the first quarter of the year.

Meanwhile, possession claims, the first stage of the repossession process, are up 13 per cent in the South East.

Frazer Thompson, chairman of the Institute of Directors in Kent said: "The level of repossessions has risen dramatically in America following the credit crunch.

"I think that it's likely to rise here too, but by a lower degree. What is likely is that new borrowers won't be offered loans they cannot afford to re-pay and that offers some good news from this issue.

"However, we are all in real danger of talking ourselves into recession rather than an era of slower growth and sensible lending. What is worrying from a business perspective are the constant projections of doom and property price gloom that is cumulatively damaging consumer and business confidence. We all know that the crunch will make money harder to borrow, but banks continue to lend against good propositions."

Mr Thompson said it was important not to forget that many businesses are benefiting from a stronger euro.

"I believe that Kent is very well placed to weather any economic storm with its concentration of entrepreneurs and small, flexible businesses," he added.

Soaring bills

Homeless charity Shelter is dismayed at the rise in repossessions and what it will mean for cash-strapped owners.

Chief executive Adam Sampson said: "The worst fears of thousands of homeowners are now becoming a tragic reality. Mortgage lenders should be helping homeowners to stay in their homes, but with some, it's a case of 'miss a couple of payments and you'll find yourself in court'.

"Homeowners are being hammered from all sides as they face the end of fixed-term deals, are saddled with new costlier mortgages, and cope with soaring food and fuel bills."

The Council for Mortgage Lenders predicts there will be 45,000 repossessions nationally this year – up from 27,100 last year. The council does not break the figures down regionally.

Its director general Michael Coogan said: "No-one wants to see repossessions rise. But risk is a part of life, and for some households circumstances change and they cannot get back on their feet. Most people who suffer payment difficulties can get out of trouble by taking good advice, prioritising their debts, and communicating with their lender early."

The Government said it would help those in financial trouble with more free legal advice for people at risk of repossession and training for debt advice agencies.

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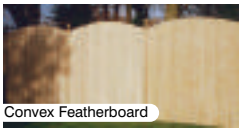
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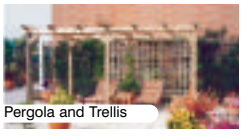
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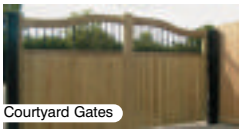
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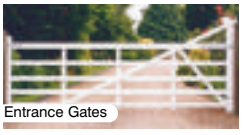
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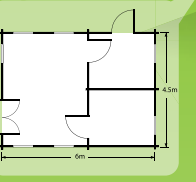

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Kelly goes Dirty Dancing

MEDWAY model Kelly Brook is back on the TV screens as she launches a new show.

In the late summer, she's back for a second series of Dirty Dancing broadcast on the Living network. The show was a huge success last summer as the best new commission ever on Living.

Brook, 28, who lives in Grafty Green near Maidstone and has recently been hitting the headlines with her own love life, will play matchmaker in the search for the hottest dance couple.

Filmed at the location of the Dirty Dancing movie, in Virginia, USA, the 10-week series will once again see 16 wannabe British dancers compete to become the next Johnnie and Baby and win a contract with dance agency Bloc.

Kelly said "While raw dance talent is essential I will be looking for that magic chemistry in our couples which will make the dance floor sizzle."

Kelly's love life has been in the news, as it was reported she was back in the arms of Titanic star Billy Zane, 42. The pair had broken up after it was revealed he was keen to get married, while she said she was still to young.

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One in seven people in the UK suffer some form of hearing loss. Many are often embarrassed to admit they are having problems and spend years suffering unnoticed.

Following Deaf Awareness Week (May 5-11), people were encouraged to visit their local Specsavers for a free hearing check. Located at County Square, Ashford, the centre offers quality service and value hearing aids at significantly lower prices than other high street stores.

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GLORY DAYS: But Folkestone pier was wrecked by fire in 1943

Author's end of the piers show

By **JENNA PUDELEK**
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

TIME has not been kind to Kent's once-majestic and lively seaside piers.

The county has just two surviving leisure piers, at Deal and Herne Bay, but a new book contains aerial photographs of all the structures before they were demolished, damaged by storms or left to decay.

Richard Riding, one of the authors of British Seaside Piers, along with Chris Mawson, said the new book explores the history of about 100 piers across the country, from their heyday in Victorian times to what remains today.

"About half of the pictures were taken from the air, mostly before World War Two when they were in their heyday.

"They were mostly taken by a company called Aerofilms, which was operating from about 1919 onwards."

Mr Riding, who lives in Hertfordshire, used to work as an aerial photographer and said the last time he saw Deal pier was from an aeroplane in 1960.

Deal's structure is Britain's most recent pier and was opened in 1957 by the Duke of Edinburgh. In 1857 a severe storm destroyed the town's first pier, which had been built in 1838, Mr Riding said.

Eugenius Birch, an architect and engineer who specialised in piers during the 19th century, designed the second pier. It was completed in 1864 and was 1,000ft long. But in 1940 it was wrecked by the beached Dutch ship Nora.

Margate was a honeypot for holidaymakers from across the country during its glory days and thrived as a coastal resort, Mr Riding said.

Margate jetty was the first iron pier to be designed by Birch.

NEW DEAL: The town's concrete pier was opened by Prince Philip in 1957

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STORMY WEATHER: Deal pier buckles after being struck by the Nora in 1940
LAST RESORT: Margate pier, right, during the town's heyday as a holiday destination

Mr Riding said: "It was used during the war for troop and supply movements, but the jetty was closed in 1976 on safety grounds.

"A severe storm in January, 1978, delivered the coup de grace and despite attempts to get rid of the remains, part of the pier head survives to this day."

Ramsgate's marina pier suffered a dramatic demise. "During World War One fire, a collision and an exploding mine all took their toll, but the pier lingered on until 1930 when it was finally demolished," Mr Riding said. Time, corrosion, war, storms,

LONG GONE: Dover's promenade pier

fire and shipping have all taken their toll on Kent's piers, with no-one willing to meet the huge restoration costs, Mr Riding said.

In 1899 Herne Bay's pier was one of the longest in the country, stretching 3,787ft out into the Thames Estuary.

Mr Riding said visitors once enjoyed riding on an electric tramway. A Grand Pavilion which opened on the pier in 1910 burned down in the 1970s.

In the same decade a storm destroyed the main pier, leaving the pier-head stranded. Mr Riding said: "I wish they would do something with it, I think it would be wonderful to connect it with a monorail.

OLD TIMES: Margate before the storms

But it comes down to money."

Dover's promenade pier also succumbed through lack of funding after once entertaining people as a pleasure pier and embarkation point for steamer outings to Hastings, the author said.

Folkestone's pier had a 700-seat pavilion and was very popular with day-trippers.

It also it attracted big-name stars including actress Lily Langtry, who had affairs with many powerful men including Queen Victoria's son the Prince of Wales.

It was badly damaged by a blaze in 1943, leaving only a skeletal reminder of its glamorous past. It was demolished in 1954, Mr Riding said.

The book is published by Ian Allan and is priced £19.99 from all good bookshops.

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images of Kent

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Costs put paid to Hellfire weekend

DOVER will be re-living its wartime past next month with the annual Hellfire Corner weekend.

The event, which takes place in Pencester Gardens on June 14 and 15, will feature vintage vehicles and period music and dress.

On the bandstand, their will be 1940s-style music throughout Saturday and Sunday.

The RAF living history group will perform their Battle of Britain operations room demonstration and the Blackfish Academy will be doing an Entertainments National Service Association version of It Ain't Half Hot Mum.

Organisers have said this will be the last time the dance will take place due to rising costs.

Tickets are £19.50 and a buffet is included in the price. Dress code for the dance is 1940s civilian, Allied uniform or black tie.

For more information, or to buy tickets, call 07972 194745.

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Park's life is rocked

By **CHRIS BRITCHER**
chris.britcher@kosmedia.co.uk

Pictures: BBC

FOR 363 days this year, Mote Park is a sprawling mass of fields and trees; a natural oasis from the crowds and hullabaloo of everyday life.

But because of two magical days, it will forever be remembered for being transformed into a sprawling musical metropolis; a heaving mass of sunburnt bodies, dancing and a line-up which Maidstone, in truth, is unlikely to see again.

Radio 1's Big Weekend had promised much. Billed as the largest free, ticketed event in Europe, it had the weight of the BBC promoting it mercilessly for the past three months and its popularity underlined by close to 600,000 applying for a pair of just 34,000 tickets available over last Saturday and Sunday.

Oh, and then there was the small matter of arguably the most famous woman on the planet linking the words Maidstone and Madonna together in a glorious nod to both alliteration and the power of a great big audience.

However, despite the self-styled Queen of Pop, Usher (yes, he did say 'hello Manchester' rather than Maidstone), The Kooks, The Fratellis, The Raconteurs, Fatboy Slim and a host of other big names rocking out, it was the atmosphere which made what could have been a rather corporate event into a genuine festival of fun.

After all, all the main ingredients were there. The sun shone endlessly. The drink flowed. The familiar scent of a recently reclassified smoking ingredient hung in the air every few steps and the obligatory tub of half-eaten, over-priced and over-cooked noodles littered the ground.

And, to be fair, you can't ask for more than that. Throw in the amusement factor of people who were a little cool for sun cream and assumed lobster colourings, and all was good.

Despite the four stages, the event was relatively compact as far as festivals go, which meant skipping between artists was not tricky even for those whose legs were struggling under the influence of one pint of Carling too many or a nasty case of heat stroke.

Hype

In preparation for the more traditional miserable May weather, the main venues were kept within circus-like, high-ceilinged tents. In soaring temperatures there was a sinking feeling entering one could be like experiencing time in the world's biggest sauna. Yet they actually offered up that precious commodity of shade and remained relatively cool.

There was no such respite on the outdoor stage – but a well-positioned medicine stall next to the stage was at least well stocked with sun cream.

In fact, the whole event was trouble-free. Even driving there on Saturday morning underlined that if you circulate enough scare stories of gridlock in the weeks leading up to it, then you get a local population staying at home.

All of which took the stress out of an event which, had you believed the hype before hand, was set to grind the centre of the county to a hot halt.

Without overnight camping, a little under an hour after Madonna had skipped off back to her helicopter the place was nearly deserted.

As for the music… well, from indie to dance to pop to rock and a lot more besides, there was something for everyone.

Madonna, meanwhile, may have her critics, and if the stories are to be believed, had insisted on her own backstage area. She was off the stage area and in a car before someone sounding rather like her was still shouting 'good night' over the speaker system, but for a woman of 49 she put on a good, high-energy show. True, she didn't indulge some of us younger than 25 with a song from her 80s heyday, but say what you like about playing predominantly new stuff, at least she made an almighty effort.

Which, in truth, is exactly what everyone involved in putting on this event did too. And for that, all deserve a standing ovation.

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by Big Weekend

QUEEN OF POP: Madonna holds court at Mote Park (left) during Radio 1's free Big Weekend

DID you miss Radio 1's Big Weekend? Then simply log-on to our sister site Yourkenttv.co.uk to catch up on the atmosphere with our video clips.

In addition to video clips of all the big stars on stage – including Madonna – we were backstage too, talking to the likes of The Feeling and The Ting Tings about taking part in the two-day festival at Maidstone's Mote Park.

If you were there and took clips of the crowds, the artists, or simply your friends, share it with us by uploading them on to our free, broadband TV channel at www.yourkenttv.co.uk.

The best will be in with a chance of winning 10 top music DVDs.

Event proves to be a great hit with all

POLICE and council chiefs have hailed the major operation put in place for the Big Weekend a "huge success".

By mid-afternoon on the second day of the festival there had been no arrests.

Parking and transport plans had also led to no disruptions for residents and festival-goers getting to and from the event easily.

Supt Ian Hall, the police event commander, said: "We are absolutely delighted. We have been involved since the start in planning the logistics. From a police point of view our stance is that we have been in background as there is security in place.

"We wanted to have a presence to reassure anyone who has not been to Maidstone before to make them want to come back again.

"There have been no arrests to date that can be attributed to this event. If you look at the dynamics, the ticket allocation does not allow large groups of people to come.

"They came in pairs or in groups of four friends. It has also been a very mature audience and there has been a good atmosphere. We want to thank everyone for this."

Trevor Gasson, the deputy chief executive of Maidstone council, said: "It has been an excellent weekend. Most importantly, the profile of Maidstone nationally and internationally has gone through the roof.

"It is too early to say what the economic effect for Maidstone will be, but hotels and beds and breakfasts have been fully booked for some time.

"There will be a long-term effect with people who have seen on TV what a great place Maidstone and Mote Park is coming here."

Maidstone was chosen from a shortlist with Southampton and Norwich to host this year's Big Weekend.

RSPB river clean-up

THE Royal Society for the Protection of Birds is hoping to reduce the amount of litter washing up on Kent's shores.

The charity is organising a series of clean-ups along the banks of the River Thames throughout the summer.

The events are sponsored by the Heritage Lottery Fund and will be carried out with the assistance London community group Thames 21.

Carol Donaldson, the RSPB officer organising the events, said: "Around 300,000 birds make their way along the river every spring and autumn. These birds need safe, clean bays in which to feed and refuel for their long journeys."

For more information, call 01634 222480.

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WOMEN for MEN

BUBBLY female, 22, GSOH, likes singing, dancing, swimming, running, seeking similar male who enjoys life, fun, outgoing, for potential relationship. Box 438519 TXT

TANYA here, have a good family, good job, good friends and looking for a good laugh. I'm 25 and would love to meet you! Box 893329 TXT

I'M 26, 5ft10, enjoy going out, restaurants, pubs, cinema and cosy nights in, looking for someone tall to go out with possibly leading to relationship. Box 418077 TXT

I'M a tall, blonde half-Dutch woman, 27, love swimming, power-walking and music, festivals!! looking for a lovely man with a GSOH for something special! Eastbourne. Box 893230 TXT

28YR old female, long blonde hair, blue eyes, 5ft10, slim, attractive, GSOH, love evenings out/in with wine, seeking similar gent to fall in love with! Box 440218 TXT

ATTRACTIVE female, 31, 5'4", size 12, dark hair with blonde highlights, tactile, WLTM intelligent, professional, attractive guy, for a happy relationship. Tunbridge Wells. Box 308734 TXT

ATTRACTIVE female, 5'3", 30, brown hair/eyes, GSOH, likes countryside, restaurants, tap-dance, clay modelling, seeks charming family man, 37-42. Steve 40, from Maidstone please call again. Box 896385 TXT

YOLANDA, 34, 5ft5, fair hair, blue eyes, hard working. Loves to walk my dog and ride my motorbike. Would you like to join me? Box 892927 TXT

BUBBLY, genuine, honest, caring Mum of 1, 34, dark hair, blue eyes, loves nights in/out, seeking male, 30-40, with GSOH, for love and all. Box 437041 TXT

MUM of 1, I'm 5ft4, blonde hair, slim, young looking, 34yrs old. I'm caring, honest, with a GSOH. I like keep-fit, cinema, dancing, days out. Box 431559 TXT

OUTGOING, funny, young-looking female, 34, 5ft3, brown hair/eyes, Tonbridge. Seeks caring, loyal male for friendship, leading to more. Box 433107 TXT

EASYGOING female with GSOH, 36, enjoys many things - going out, staying in, seeking a nice, genuine guy for lots of love and laughter. Box 437913 TXT

ATTRACTIVE black female, 36, 5ft7, slim-medium build, short dark brown hair, brown eyes, single Mum, seeking male 36-40, honest, kind, caring, for potential romance. Box 439329 TXT

HELLO, I'm 41, a single Mum, professional, Christian, lacking confidence and looking to meet someone to share my life with and be there for me. Box 439849 TXT

YOUNG-LOOKING blonde, 40 yrs, 5'6", size 12-14, enjoys walking, skiing, cycling, camping, swimming, cooking, looking for caring and honest guy, with similar interests. Box 898910 TXT

FUN-LOVING, vivacious lady, 41, one son, enjoys dining out, walking, cinema, romantic meals, seeking confident man with GSOH, N/S, for friendship, maybe more. Kent. Box 895679 TXT

YOUNG looking/acting curvy woman, 41, looking for someone special, for nights out/in. Hopefully leading to something amazing & long term. Box 746781 TXT

PROFESSIONAL 41yr old female, 5'9", dark hair, blue eyes, single mum, happy-go-lucky, into sports, looking for professional, tall male, for laughter and happiness. Box 420077 TXT

FUN-LOVING 41, happy, caring, N/S brunette, size 12, 5ft3, likes to laugh, enjoy most things, looking for that special person to share my life. Eastbourne. Box 897642 TXT

CARING, loving, attractive female, 41, N/S, size 12, enjoys keeping fit, most things, seeks romantic, passionate, tall, good looking male, 35-42, for LTR. Eastbourne. Box 807291 TXT

TALL, outgoing lady, 43, large build, newly settled in Kent, needs to spread her wings and meet a nice chap! Let's chat! Box 895908 TXT

PROFESSIONAL woman, single, solvent. I enjoy music, travel, history. I'm 42 and WLTM similar guy, any age, with a GSOH. Box 431108 TXT

GENUINE, divorced female, 44, likes listening to music, cinema, weekends way, quiet evenings in, seeks kind, caring, honest gentleman, for true love. Box 156703 TXT

NIKI, 44, I'm like marmite you will love or hate me. Cuddly, outgoing, female, looking to be captured with laughter, are you brave enough ? Box 894205 TXT

KIND, outgoing female, 42, nurse, GSOH, 5'4", medium build, seeks kind, caring, honest male, 38-45, in a similar profession. Box 385454 TXT

PETITE, sincere woman, 44, wavy blonde hair, blue eyes, size 10, loves beach walks, animals, DIY, swimming, travelling, WLTM N/S man to share things with. Box 429682 TXT

ATTRACTIVE female, 45, slim-medium build, 5ft5, big brown eyes, brown hair, caring, loving, honest, seeking LTR with an honest, caring male to enjoy life with. Box 439367 TXT

46YR old loving, warm female, 5ft7, likes walking, running, socialising, drinking, having a laugh, meeting friends, looking to meet someone with similar and new outlooks. Box 434297 TXT

CARING, honest 46yr old female, 5'2", eyes of blue, redhead. Likes cinema, theatre, walking. WLTM male for fun and friendship. Box 895928 TXT

46YR old female, small and slim, brown hair with hazel eyes, likes music, films, animals, days outs and snuggling on the sofa, seeking similar male. Box 893566 TXT

SLIM, petite Sandy, 46, brown hair, green eyes, no ties, loves socialising, eating out etc, GSOH, seeking trustworthy, honest man for partnership and mutual affection. Box 440100 TXT

HI! Chrissie, 46, bubbly, outgoing, 5ft8, blue eyes, short blonde hair, divorced, large build, love travel, cinema, eating, seeks easygoing, fun-loving male for relationship! Winchelsea. Box 439580 TXT

KIND, loving female, 44, blonde, 5'4", medium/curvy build, likes reading, live music, countryside, walks, seeks similar, adventurous male for happy times together. Kent. Box 805846 TXT

SINCERE, happy woman, with GSOH. I'm 5ft6, with short brown hair, brown eyes. I have lots of interests and WLTM similar guy. Box 895019 TXT

HONEST, loyal woman, 47, 5ft5, medium build, brown hair/eyes. Sittingbourne area. I enjoy beach walks, country walks, cosy night in and out, cinema, music, weekends away. Box 439192 TXT

HI I'm Mandy, chocolate brown hair, blue eyes, 48, seeking human male (preferably) for nights out, socialising, clubbing, meals, lots of laughs and much more. Box 437489 TXT

BUBBLY, caring lady, 47, divorced with 2 teenagers, dark hair, medium build, into cooking, driving, love to talk, laugh and have fun, seeking a normal guy. Box 425952 TXT

BUBBLY female, 49, enjoys walking, cinema, socialising, pubs, clubs, dancing seeks friendly man for friendship leading to more. Box 895960 TXT

PETITE brunette, bubbly and friendly, easygoing single mum, 49, enjoys cinema, eating out, socialising, most things. Wltm genuine male to see where life takes us! Box 893562 TXT

SARINA, 49, 5ft8, medium build, blonde, green eyes, I like cinema, drinks, beach walks, countryside, POI, concerts, seeking similar male for lasting love and happiness. Box 892450 TXT

HELP me write my stand-up comedy routine! I'm 49, you'll need to make me laugh out loud and understand observational comedy to make the grade. Box 892640 TXT

YOUNG female, 50, 5ft5, slim, bubbly, outgoing, GSOH, loves animals, walks, eating out, nights in with wine, seeks genuine male 45-55 for friendship & more. Box 439607 TXT

SLIM lady, 49 years old, brown hair/eyes, likes socialising, concerts/gigs, eating in/out, about time to meet someone to enjoy the simple things with. Box 422238 TXT

SHARON 49, enjoys the simple things in life, looking for a nice, tall, genuine man. Box 411487 TXT

PROFESSIONAL female 49, 5ft4, long hair, slim, likes eating out, the beach, travel, seeks a friendly chap, 48-55. Hastings. Box 417100 TXT

PETITE, blonde female, 50, GSOH, likes music, books, films, cooking, looking for romantic soulmate, 40-55, for TLC. Kent. Box 835181 TXT

SINCERE female, 50, seeking clean shaven, reasonably good-looking man for a brighter future. Box 844882 TXT

HAPPY go lucky, jovial, caring female, 51, 5'3", brown hair, hazel eyes, own business, WLTM nice, tall, good looking gent for laughter, life and love. Box 926614 TXT

53, fit and healthy, single now for nine years and can't find the right man! If you enjoy sports and live music let's chat! Box 923309 TXT

I am small, blonde, 52, chirpy, full of fun! Looking for a tall gentleman who loves music, going out and enjoying themselves for companionship. Box 897255 TXT

HI, I'm a kind female, 52, slim, 5ft3, dark hair. I like music, dancing, reading, coast, countryside. Seeking kind, genuine man, 45-60, for LTR. Box 430032 TXT

DOWN-TO-EARTH female, 52, 5'5", blonde/blue eyes, cuddly, likes walking, country pubs or town, want a man with a GSOH. Box 830616 TXT

VIVACIOUS, brunette, young 54, attractive, divorced professional, enjoys art/craft/poetry, walking, travel, motorbikes. Happy to explore new interests with that special male, 48-60, Brighton area. Box 905362 TXT

HI, I'm a 56yr old bubbly woman, 5'6", medium build, red hair, like shopping, music, drama, walks, WLTM a honest, compatible man for happiness. Brighton. Box 438090 TXT

57Y/O tactile, passionate person, red hair, 5ft3, size 12, young looking, young thinking, very interested in Irish man to make me happy and live again. Box 438829 TXT

HI I'm 56, a widow, slim, long blonde hair, green eyes, enjoy animals, voluntary work, seeking a nice man for a happy partnership. Box 440266 TXT

BRUNETTE, 5ft4, 50s, blue eyes, GSOH, likes walking, going to the pictures, eating out, all the usual things. Want to enjoy life again! Eastbourne. Box 906148 TXT

59YR old young-at-heart, loving woman, I am hoping to meet a kindred spirit who loves animals, going for walks and the romantic side of life. Box 900143

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SINGLE female, 59, blonde, brown eyes, loyal & caring, likes animals, eating in & out, WLTM male, for relationship. Box 842852 TXT

WIDOWED female, 62, WLTM trustworthy, honest caring guy 62-65 to share and enjoy the simple life; not fussed if you smoke/drink etc. life's too short. Box 438401 TXT

TALL lady (Bexhill-on-sea), 66, 5ft8, medium build, I like dancing, having a drink, animals and WLTM a companion, someone caring and sincere, to share life with. Box 436932 TXT

SEMI-RETIRED, active, widow, 65, enjoys most things in life, looking to meet a genuine gent, for friendship maybe more. Hastings area. Box 422343 TXT

WIDOW, 66, own house/car, likes beach walks, theatre, cinema, restaurants, seeks genuine man, who wants to be in a relationship. Robertsbridge. Box 424906 TXT

Women for women

CARING, honest, feminine 36yr old female, 5'6", WLTM a humorous female, 28-45, for fun, laughs and friendship. Eastbourne. Box 411332 TXT

GENTLE, caring female, 38, short blonde hair, slim, sporty, likes cooking, socialising, good company, enjoys life, WLTM special person, for LTR. Box 402230 TXT

40-YEAR-OLD gay woman, likes nice wine, candlelight, the sea, passionate people and places, muddy walks and cosy nights in, WLTM gay woman for friendship/relationship. Seaford. Box 894541 TXT

GENUINE, feminine female, 39, 5'6", size 10, likes sports, meals out, cosy nights in, reading, music, gardening, WLTM feminine female for friendship and maybe more. Hastings. Box 810708 TXT

MEN for WOMEN

23YR old guy, 6ft, medium build, dark blond hair and blue eyes, enjoys pubs, cinema, walks, keeping fit, seeking like-minded girl for friendship and more. Box 893423 TXT

HI, I'm 23, 6'4", medium build, like sports, music, clubs etc, looking for female for fun or to see for relationship. Box 893788

LAID-BACK guy, 24, with a GSOH, seeks easy-going, attractive girl, between 18-35, for friendship, possible relationship. Box 902840 TXT

MALE, 32, 6ft3, medium build, brown hair/eyes, honest guy, fun-loving and caring, animal lover, seeking female with similar interests 25-40 for fun, friendship and more. Box 438658 TXT

FUN-LOVING, edgy, fit, intelligent, honest male, 30s, 6'4", loves to cook and laugh, very loyal, Looking for honest woman for fun and who knows? Box 918373 TXT

SINCERE, easygoing male, 31, 5'8", medium build, brown hair, likes pubs, cinema, meals out, football, seeks honest, caring female for love and happiness. Box 109869 TXT

GOOD-LOOKING looking, 35yr old chap, no ties, looking for love/inspiration, someone to chase dreams, enjoy life's adventure with. Box 897436 TXT

35YR old loving, caring, thoughtful, affectionate man, love eating in/out, country walks, looking for a female for friendship and maybe more. Box 436597 TXT

HELLO, I'm 36, 5ft11, with brown eyes, love the gym, travelling, general good times, seeking an honest friendship and possibly more with the right lady. Box 439917 TXT

SINGLE male, 36 years old, looking for an engaging, independent lady for fun and more. Bexhill. Box 903237 TXT

CHEEKY male, 39 years old, 5'11", brown hair, blue eyes, new to this, loves to have fun, seeking an outgoing female, 24-44. Box 900745 TXT

39YR old chap, own house/horses, athletic build, loves good foods, nights in, travelling, looking for someone similar. Box 901648 TXT

HAPPY-GO-LUCKY builder, young 39, 5'9", brown hair, blue eyes, likes gym, kids, animals, good food, most things, been out of the dating game! Box 921526 TXT

GENTLE, kind, laid-back, caring 6'1" male, 40, looking for friendship with hopes for a special future. Enjoys going out, staying in, music, gigs, art, walking. Box 929548 TXT

SINGLE dad, 41, 5'10", average build, younger looking. Wltm lady for friendship evenings out and maybe more. Recently quit smoking! East Sussex. Box 963530 TXT

HI, I'm 40, great personality, mad SOH, divorced, own business, very caring and loveable, seeking a pretty slim girl who likes to have a laugh! Box 437354 TXT

ATTRACTIVE guy, nice to be with, laid back, I'm 41, 5ft9, medium/stocky build, brown hair. Own business and home, enjoys walks, pubs, wine, restaurants, cinema. Box 437225 TXT

INTELLIGENT male, 43, 5'9", GSOH, home/car, slim, enjoys meals out, travel, good wine, socialising, seeks sincere, attractive female, 28-40s, for initial friendship, fun, hopefully more. Brighton. Box 437707 TXT

CARING male, 43, separated, seeks female for friendship, company, likes socialising and generally enjoying life, theatre, cinema, WLTM female for potential LT interest! Box 898705 TXT

EASYGOING, laid back, young looking/acting male, 42, looking for fun, friendly female for fun, friendship, romance and good times. Box 925660 TXT

EASY-GOING, attractive, affectionate man, 43, enjoys cinema, cosy nights in, music, seeking an attractive lady for friendship/relationship. Box 429272 TXT

FUN-LOVING man, 46, GSOH, outgoing, friendly, seeks a carefree woman who still has the zest for life for mutual affection and relationship. Box 895912 TXT

WANT to laugh, smile and feel special again! Single Dad, 46, who thinks life's too short! Box 920675 TXT

PROFESSIONAL businessman, 46, divorced, tall, fit, easygoing, romantic, tactile, enjoys good food & wine, holidays, sport, outdoor life, relaxing & generally having fun! Tunbridge Wells/Brighton. Box 895345 TXT

DAD of 2, 46, very romantic and full of life, enjoy wining/dining, looking for that special someone to share my life. Box 902417 TXT

47YR old male, 6ft, brown hair hazel eyes, medium build, active, likes football, clubs, pubs, cosy nights in, seeking witty, caring, trustworthy female. Box 437263 TXT

KIND, considerate, caring, honest guy, 47, 6ft, hazel eyes, brown hair, medium build, like football, swimming, reading, driving, seeking caring female to share life with! Box 892531 TXT

48YR old good-natured, happy-go-lucky male, works full time, enjoy most things in life, music, cinema, looking for soulmate but happy to find a friend. Box 893799 TXT

MALE, 49, adventurous, romantic, loves astrology, spiritualism, cats, sports, good conversation; WLTM similar spiritual and friendly female to make happy. Box 440172 TXT

6FT builder, 48, single dad, looking for fun friendship and relationship. if you like what you hear then let me know. Box 909511 TXT

YOUNG at heart male, 48, 5'8", good looking, blue eyes, short fair hair, looking for female for gentle times together. Likes holidays, wining/dining, outdoor life. Box 407759 TXT

TACTILE guy, 29, 6'2", blond hair, blue eyes, likes cycling, tennis, bowling, quiet evenings in, romantic walks, seeks attractive blonde/brunette, for fun, friendship possible LTR. Box 931059 TXT

HOSPITABLE gent, 50, great people person, friendly, understanding and outgoing, seeking a nice young lady 24-50 to go out and enjoy life and love with. Box 438125 TXT

DAVE, 51, 5ft5, happy-go-lucky, single parent, likes cricket, swimming, days out on the beach, seeking female with similar interests, children welcome, for possible romance...Ashford. Box 438745 TXT

HI, I'm 52, 5ft8, blonde hair, blue eyes, separated, seeking a female 40-50 that likes a laugh and good times, cinema, meals...to enjoy life! Box 440110 TXT

FUN to be with male, 51, medium build, greyish hair, like going out and staying in, watching films, beach walks, WLTM like-minded, loving lady. Box 899927 TXT

PETE, 54, recently separated, silver haired, blue eyes, 5'8", average/large build, seeking genuine, laid back, honest, tactile woman to share love and affection with. Box 893359 TXT

HI I'm Geoff, 55, part-time mature student, average build, 5ft9, short brown hair, light beard! Blue eyes, seeking female to enjoy outdoor walks and more. Box 440191

CONFIDENT, sociable guy, 54, 5ft6, stocky, strong and fit. I work in antiques and have a GSOH. I'm looking for a nice woman, 49-55. Box 426826 TXT

ADAM, 56, 5ft8, brown hair, blue eyes, cuddly, likes golf, live shows, eating out, seeks genuine lady for friendship and more. Box 431007 TXT

I'M 56, 5ft9, love motor-boating, theatre, walking, cycling, seeking similar lady to meet up with for friendship, good times, special times, fun times and more. Box 436025 TXT

FIT male, 58, 6ft, fair hair, blue eyes, N/S, enjoys all the usual, seeking a genuine lady, to share interests, friendship and maybe romance. Box 422933 TXT

RAMSGATE-BASED truck driver, 59, 5'6", seeks loyal, trusting, down-to-earth loving, caring soulmate. I have a lot of love for the right woman. Box 897869 TXT

PHILIP, 59, blue eyes, very lonely, looking for a slim, petite girl. I'm honest, kind, tactile guy who's been left on the shelf! Box 902065 TXT

MATURE tourist biker, 59, seeking an outgoing outdoor female (pref. Capricorn or Leo), must be strong character, for trips and exploration. Box 438806 TXT

HI, I'm a 59 yr old professional, 2 grown up children. Likes cinema, theatre and dining out. WLTM a lady with similar interests, pref non-smoker. Box 892872 TXT

PROPERTY developer, 62, travelled Europe and beyond, eclectic interests, romantic, sensitive, seeks attractive and intelligent female friend, confidante, travelling companion, soulmate. Box 892490 TXT

EASYGOING male, 60s, 5'9", quite fit, N/S, GSOH, own home/car, enjoys dancing, country pubs, holidays, meals out, WLTM lady for friendship. Box 163228 TXT

CREATIVE guy in Tunbridge Wells, 62, young in heart/mind, working, music-maker, intelligent, romantic, New Age, socialist, green, enjoys nights/days in/out, seeks kindred spirit for mutual TLC. Box 865959 TXT

WIDOWER, 63, seeking that special lady to share good times with, for companionship. I'm a keen gardener, 6ft and still hard working. Box 440066 TXT

PROFESSIONAL photographer, 65, with a passion for travel (especially France, Asia and USA) and good food, looking for an attractive slim woman for companionship. Box 894322 TXT

65-YEAR-OLD divorced male, own home/car. Thinks it's about time to settle again. Work at a local garage and have a good social life. Box 894412 TXT

66YR old down-to-earth gent, 5ft9, affectionate, fit, love dancing (no expert though!), theatre/art/music, WLTM similar caring lady 60-70 with GSOH for dancing lessons! Box 440144 TXT

LOVELY male, 87, N/S, OHAC, loves the countryside, coasts, boot fairs and walks, WLTM kind-hearted, cuddly female for friendship or long-term relationship. Bexhill. Box 893311 TXT

Men for men

24YR old male, 5ft11, brunette, down-to-earth, caring, sensitive, seeking a similar male for some fun times and perhaps to find something more. Box 439945 TXT

HONEST guy, 40s, 5ft11, blue eyes, sporty chap, looking for a similar male, 30-70 to spend good times together. Box 426237 TXT

MIXED RACE male, 49, medium build, shaven head, loves socialising, long walks, conversation; WLTM nice guy, 40-55, for fun-loving times, perhaps something more. Tunbridge Wells. Box 438680 TXT

MATURE, bi guy, 50, 6ft, large build, likes nights in, looking for gent, 60+, for regular meets in Sussex, hopefully leading to LTR. Box 897705 TXT

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FUN, flirty female, nearly 30, petite with dark hair, bored of being single, seeking someone to take me out and show me a good time. Box 895349 TXT

TALL, black, pretty female, 31, new to the Chatham area, loves watching football, shopping, travel; seeking tall, white, loving male 34-47 for LTR. Box 437778 TXT

31YR old bubbly, fun-loving female, like reading, cinema, looking for tall, dark and handsome male, GSOH, for happy times. Brighton. Box 438057 TXT

FUN-LOVING, attractive female, 31, 5ft10, brown hair/eyes, size 8-10, GSOH, passionate about music, bikes and animals, seeking a caring, considerate male, who's into bikes. Box 433134 TXT

BLACK female, 32, 5ft8, likes cooking, reading, going out, WLTM a nice man 34-50, down-to-earth and fun to be with, to find out more. Box 438585 TXT

32YR old woman, 5ft9, brown hair, curvy figure. I enjoy having fun and a laugh and WLTM nice, kind gent. Box 439402 TXT

CARING, loving, affectionate female, 30, 5'2", blonde, likes walking, horse riding, animals, seeks affectionate male, 30-40, for lasting, loving relationship. Box 384013 TXT

SINGLE mum of 2, 32, WLTM someone kind, caring and considerate, for nights in/out and cinema. Ryan from Whitstable, please call again, leave contact details! Box 406670 TXT

BUBBLY Brighton girl, 32, looking for average bloke to love me and my son! If you like your girls curvy get in touch. Box 900977 TXT

SINGLE girl, hardworking, kind and caring, 32, brown hair/eyes, nice smile, looking to meet similar for let's see how it goes. Box 901072 TXT

LOVELY female, 36, 5ft4, medium-large build, blonde hair, blue eyes, own house, loves walking, going out, the usual! Seeking male for long-term/serious relationship. Box 438102 TXT

I'M a blonde, curvy woman, 36, a singer and I'd love to meet a guy for laughs, good conversation and I'd love to hear from you. Box 439412

SINGLE mum of 3, 37, fun-loving, great to be around, been hurt in the past, heart has been broken and needs mending. Box 908053 TXT

BUBBLY, blonde, single mum, 38, 5'6", likes cars, reading, pubs, cosy nights in & having a laugh, looking for that right male for LTR. Box 905614 TXT

HI, I'm a 38-year-old lively, attractive female, slim, love weekends away, nice meals, animal lover, seeking a nice, honest man for happy times together. Hastings. Box 435857 TXT

CUTE, single mum of 4, 38yrs old, Kent based, into most things, looking for friendship or possibly romance. Box 897983 TXT

HI I'm a 39yr old divorced Mum of 1, enjoy reading/dancing, socialising, family life, seeking kind, caring, funny male for potential LTR. Box 440151 TXT

NURSE, 37yrs, 2 kids, 5ft8, blonde hair, blue eyes, likes the gym, cooking, swimming, salsa dancing, looking for a kind, caring, loyal male. Box 431557 TXT

ATTRACTIVE 38yr old female, dark brown hair, blue eyes, curvy physique, likes days out, music, concerts, cinema, walking, cycling, seeks loving, fun male, for friendship/relationship. Box 901893 TXT

BUSY, energetic, 40yr old woman, 5ft9, single mum, enjoys bowling, having a laugh, cooking, cinema, glass of wine, seeks down-to-earth male for friendship and more. Box 431352 TXT

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18/05/08

Beeb man Rob's voyage a tribute to tragic Jessie

By **PHIL REILLY**
phil.reilly@kosmedia.co.uk

A BBC TV reporter is hitting the high seas in a voyage around Great Britain in memory of a teenage girl he interviewed who died of leukaemia.

BBC South East's Rob Smith has been preparing for his trip for the last three months and will be setting sail in a 32ft yacht from Gillingham next month.

The expedition was inspired by the death of a young woman called Jessie Whitmore whom Mr Smith interviewed in 2005.

He said that when he first interviewed 17-year-old Jessie in 2005 it was a good news story.

She had been waiting for a bone marrow transplant and a matching donor appeared to have been found through a newspaper.

He told KOS Media: "I left with nothing on my mind other than that she would have a positive outcome.

"Six months later we did an obituary piece. As a reporter you usually have a professional detachment but this knocked me sideways.

"I've got children of my own and I can't imagine what it would be like to bring them up to the point of them being nearly adults and then have them taken away.

"I had no particular connection to Jessie other than that I'd interviewed her, but something about the whole scenario really got to me."

IN MEMORY: Rob Smith on his yacht Wild Rover with Jessie Whitmore's mother Lorraine

He is hoping to raise around £20,000 for the charity Leukaemia Research and has already had £4,000 pledged.

Jessie's mother Lorraine is supporting Mr Smith's voyage and took a trip on the yacht, named Wild Rover, last week.

She said that if her daughter were still here she would ask to go on the voyage herself.

She said: "Jessie was a very out-going girl and once she'd set her mind to something she just had to achieve it before moving onto the next thing.

"She loved a challenge and sailing round Britain would have been right up her street. The fact that he's doing something he loves and is helping other people in the process – and doing it all in Jessie's name – is fantastic."

Mr Smith will be leaving Gillingham Marina on June 12 and is hoping to complete the journey in three weeks.

It will include stops in Newcastle, north-east Scotland, Belfast and Plymouth and his progress will be documented online at www.sailroundbritain.co.uk.

He will also be at Hempstead Valley Shopping Centre on Saturday, May 31, to collect money for the charity.

Anyone wishing to make a donation can also do so at www.justgiving.com/sailroundbritain.

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ABTA K9752

KENT ON SUNDAY

COMMENT

Don't judge them

'SAVIOUR siblings' are a prime example of the difficulty for the law in keeping up with the rapid advances of science.

It is impossible not to sympathise with families like the Zammits, who have a child suffering from a life-threatening illness.

Quite understandably they would do anything they could to save their son's life.

But at the same time people are genuinely frightened by the idea of creating one life with the intention to save another.

It is a complicated and confusing issue. Some people are afraid of what scientists can do and many also have deeply-held religious convictions to contend with.

Yes it is scary how quickly science is advancing, but it is important to remember that in this country, testing IVF embryos to try to find a tissue match for the family's sick child is tightly regulated.

The bill also outlaws tissue matching for whole organ donation. However, it does recognise in the future other tissues, such as cells from the umbilical cord, may be important for treating life-threatening conditions and it allows for bone marrow donation.

Ninety-nine per cent of parents, thankfully, could not easily understand what families like the Zammits have been through, which is why, whatever our beliefs, it is important not to judge them.

But a parent's desperation to save the life of their child cannot be underestimated. It is not hard to imagine that if 'saviour siblings' are outlawed in this country parents will be forced to seek treatment abroad, possibly in places where health standards are less stringent than our own.

Legislators face some tough decisions. Science should be allowed to be used to ease suffering and pain, but only in a climate of strict regulation and open debate about ethics.

OPINION: Free Burma – feed Burma

It is time to tell the Chinese government it should end its support for the regime in Burma, says TIM GARBUTT

I THINK very few people can have failed to be moved by the disasters of recent weeks. First was the massive cyclone and mounting deaths in Burma and now the earthquake in China.

It's worth putting these in context against the cataclysmic tsunami in the same region of South-East Asia in 2004 with 250,000 deaths.

The numbers of casualties defy understanding. Almost double the Hiroshima bomb toll died in the tsunami and in Burma possibly 60,000 dead, comparable to the total US troop deaths in Vietnam.

And all in days rather than decades.

But disasters happen. Earthquakes rage across Asia and the Middle East, as do tidal waves.

We have a situation where – as with the tsunami – we all know the problem but in Burma the military junta is actively preventing aid to preserve its own power base. A few months ago it even withdrew the capital from Rangoon to a jungle redoubt in Central Burma as its control faltered with civil and ethnic war and food shortages.

Former US ambassador Mark Palmer, of Freedom House (a United States-based international non-governmental organisation), has detailed in Breaking the Axis of Evil how the last few anti-democratic nations like Burma are anachronisms today.

Food security problems in the Philippines and India pale into insignificance against the near famine in Burma and North Korea.

In October we also saw the monks of Burma rebel and this year is the 20th anniversary of the regimes of the Cold War crushing the pro-democracy movements in Tiananmen Square and in Rangoon, and the imprisonment of Aung San Suu Kyi – a British citizen by marriage.

Last week she was awarded America's highest civilian Congressional medal to sit alongside her Nobel Peace Prize.

It's also the 60th anniversary of Burmese independence by Aung San's father and 55 years since the truce in Korea allowed British troops home – and crucially it's the year of the Beijing Olympics.

Should we boycott the Games? My view is no. The Chinese regime is deeply unpleasant with thousands of executions and restrictions on human rights but it's certainly not communist any more. It is keen to change – joining the World Trade Organisation and including protections for human rights in its constitution demonstrate its intent to become a more open nation.

Where Beijing is failing, though, is in continuing to support regimes like Burma and North Korea. Without Chinese support these regimes would collapse within weeks, ripped apart by their failed policies and public discontent.

We're so far away from Asia and I'm not sure that providing aid will help Burma with the generals in control.

We shouldn't invest in Burma like Total Oil. We should focus our attention on China and encourage a British, EU and American boycott of goods and encourage British athletes to turn their backs on the podium at the opening ceremony in support of Burma.

In Kent our politicians are breaking bread to trade with the Chinese government for the Chinese Gateway (Manston Business Park) while Asia drowns. Kent County Council should be leading the way in ethical business and governance rather than the deals we've seen to date.

Surely Paul Carter, the leader of KCC, will at least make a formal protest on behalf of Kent's citizens?

Why not take an envelope and write China Embassy, London, on the front and Free Burma – Feed Burma on the back and include a few grains of rice from your kitchen cupboards.

The last thing the Chinese ambassador wants is Kent citizens highlighting his regime's failure to feed Burma and North Korea in Olympics year.

The problems in Burma are ultimately man-made in China. Burma and North Korea are past their sell-by date in a global democratic economy. It is time for change.

• ***Tim Garbutt is the MD of Integrity Agency, a green and ethical marketing agency in Canterbury: www.integrityagency.eu.***

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Leave oil in the ground

I was concerned by your article on page 7 of May 4's paper headed, 'Why we must stockpile oil'. I agree with Derek Wyatt's suggestions Britain should stockpile oil in the uncertain times we now live in.

Part of the problem is that North Sea oil was used profligately. Many years ago, The Guardian suggested Britain should use only part of its oil and save some but governments, both Labour and Conservative, maximised production and the UK actually exported oil for many years, oil that could have been kept in the ground for future emergencies.

Mr Wyatt also suggested oil could reach $500 a barrel in five years, which is quite likely as it is already around $114 dollars. The planet's population is rising and India and China, etc, are using more oil. There is also a danger that oil supplies could be cut dramatically. Many oil producers do not need the money they're getting from their oil sales so they might decide that oil left in the ground is a better investment than oil pumped out and sold. It's a straight accounting calculation. If oil in the ground appreciates five fold in five years, this would be a better investment than selling oil and investing the proceeds in stocks and shares in the current economic climate.

Marc Hurstfield
Northfleet

No freedom on buses

How I agree with Michael Reeves about the free bus passes being no benefit to the elderly. My husband and I decided to visit Dickens World by bus. Only 35 miles from Canterbury.

We got a bus from our station, but it only went as far as Faversham. Off we got and had to wait 50 minutes for one to Sittingbourne. When it came along, that was as far as that one went. We were told to wait for a Rainham bus. It didn't go to Chatham though. That would involve catching a fourth bus, with another hour wait. By then we'd had enough and finished our journey by train, arriving three-and-a-half hours after leaving home. Then of course, we had to pay train fares to get home. So much for a 'free' day out.

J Coombs
Canterbury

It's our business to redress the balance

It's time there was some balance given to the debate about Kent County Council's own "commercial" activities.

Kent County Council spends £860 million a year on goods and services for the 1.4 million residents in the county – maintaining roads, pavements and buildings like schools, libraries and day centres; providing transport, early years' education and caring for vulnerable people, to name but a few.

A total of £834m, some 97 per cent, goes to private companies or the voluntary sector to run these services.

Many of the services that are run by KCC's Commercial Services are sub-contracted to local companies employing local people and much of its business is outside of Kent, supplying to authorities and organisations all around the country, providing business for Kent and creating much needed jobs.

Commercial Services makes a profit of £5m a year in income to the council and we are proud of it.

It is the equivalent of at least 1 per cent that we don't have to add onto our council tax bills.

We have a responsibility to make the best use of public money by getting the best price for goods and services and ensuring there is fair and robust competition in the market place.

Paul Carter
Leader, Kent County Council

Dispute towers over us

I have recently met with the developers, Edinburgh House Estates to discuss their development in Gravesend.

On consideration, I feel concerned that the tower within this development may indeed be out of place. I am pleased to learn that of 200 responses to their consultation campaign, which included 17,000 leaflets, only 46 of these responses were to complain. If all responses were indeed in support of the regeneration of Gravesend it follows that the complaints – which were directed only at the tower development – would back up the concerns expressed at me on my visit.

I have to accept that the majority of businesses consulted are strongly in favour of the Edinburgh House development. Similarly, it would be churlish of me to deny that the group has consulted all relevant bodies, including GOSE, CABE and English Heritage, all of whom have supported it.

So where do I stand in terms of he development? Firstly, I am reassured that Edinburgh House Estates has taken into account local opinion. Second, I accept it's difficult to please everyone when regenerating an area. Thirdly, I acknowledge efforts have been made to try to achieve this. Finally, I continue to assert that we do need to consider the impact of the tower – which, of the entire regeneration, remains the most controversial element of the project.

It is hoped a resolution might be found which balances the natural and reasonable aspiration for profits against the local concerns about the impact to the character of the area of the tower.

I'm all in favour of landmark developments such as the Gateshead Angel, Wembley Stadium and the Gherkin. What matters is that the developments will, over time, be accepted as natural and positive for the area. This appears to be the main point of dispute in the case of the tower.

I hope this perspective is helpful and I'm certainly willing to continue the dialogue and help to seek a resolution.

Lembit Opik MP
House of Commons

Currency not inevitable

There is nothing inevitable about Britain joining the European Currency, as prophesised in your opinion column last week.

There are at least two potent factors that will ensure a continuing opposition to such a submission. One is Turkey and the other is a possible disintegration of an already financially corrupt and unresponsive European Union. Both factors are intertwined.

While secular Turkey is already an active member of Nato and seeks admission to the

Letters continued on p38

YOUR LETTERS

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Grahame and Kelly of Faversham are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Grace Louise, on 30th April 2008 weighing 6lb 14oz. A new baby sister for Robert.

BALDOCK
Helen and Daniel Baldock celebrate the birth of their son Joshua George Baldock on 19th April 2008.

BREWER
Proud parents Timo and Elizabeth of Tunbridge Wells celebrate the birth of their beautiful sons Devon Timo Brewer and Drew Harvey Brewer on 6th May 2008.

BROWNING
Andrew and Hannah of Ightham celebrate the birth of their son Jacob Thomas Browning on 29th April 2008 weighing 8lb 11oz.

COOKE
Gary and Melanie of Herne Bay are pleased to announce the safe arrival of their son Alfie Jason, born on 21st April 2008. A new baby brother for Joshua, Jake, Courtney, Jamie and Keira.

CORNWELL
Tim and Laura of Maidstone celebrate the birth of their son Harry Patrick Cornwell born on 4th May 2008.

CULVER
Alex Aaron Culver born on 16 April 2008 at QEQM Hospital Margate to Mark and Tracey. We find ourselves blessed with a wonderful son and wouldnt change a thing for the world.

CUST
Daniel and Debbie of Pembury are delighted to announce the birth of their son Toby William George on 26th April 2008 weighing 9lb 3oz, a brother for Joshua.

DAVIES
Kelly and Neil Davies of Maidstone celebrate the birth of their son Evan William Davies born on 3rd May 2008 weighing 8lb 6oz.

DAVIES
Katherine and Craig of Sevenoaks are delighted to announce the arrival of Gwyneth Janet Estella on 30th April 2008.

EBERLIN
To Rachel (of Canterbury) a beautiful son, Otto Alexander, born on 28th April 2008 weighing 7lb.

EBOIGBODIN
Efosa and Lisa of Canterbury are delighted to announce the birth of their son, Gabriel Efosa Tinashe, on 29th April 2008 weighing 7lb 2oz.

GOOGOOLYE
Googoolye Hina born on 3rd May 2008 to Ramesh and Asuka at Pembury Hospital.

GROVES
Ruby Louise born on 2nd May 2008, weighing 7lb 13oz. Daughter to Anna and Gavin.

GULLIFORD
Simon and Tanya announce the birth of George John Gulliford, 6lb 11oz, on the 14th April 2008 at QEQM Hospital Margate. A beautiful baby brother for William.

HALTON
Greg and Jane are delighted to announce the birth of their beautiful daughter Amelia Charlotte on 4th May 2008 weighing 8lb.

HAMBLING
James and Margaret are delighted to announce the birth of beautiful daughter Lily on 15th April 2008.

HAMDALLAH
Nashat and Shereen of Hersden are proud to announce the birth of their beautiful daughter, Yara, on 28th April 2008. A new baby sister for Mohammad.

HEAD
Katrina and Richard of Tonbridge are delighted to announce the arrival of their beautiful daughter Ellie Rebecca on 1st May 2008 weighing 6lb 8oz.

HOOPER
Paul and Emma are pleased to announce the birth of their beautiful baby daughter, Millie Isabella on 1st May 2008.

JEFFERISS
Kelly Todd and Matthew Jefferiss celebrate the birth of their son Lleighton Todd Jefferiss on 26th April 2008.

JOHNSON
Kai Waverley James Johnson born on 4th May 2008, weighing 7lb 8oz. Son to Steve Purvis and Sherry Johnson in Maidstone, brother to Ben.

JONES
David and Melanie of Chestfield are proud to announce the birth of their beautiful daughter, Kacey Patricia, on 2nd May 2008. A new baby sister for Maegan.

JUDGE
Ethan William born on 5th May 2008, weighing 9lb 1oz. Son to Louise and Phillip and brother to Katharine and Lauren Judge of Boughton Monchelsea.

LANGFORD
Matt and Mary of Whitstable are delighted to announce the birth of their beautiful daughter, Scarlett Elizabeth Stella, on 26th April 2008.

McCLYMONT
Lilly Rose born on 8th May 2008, weighing 6lb 14oz. Daughter to Charlotte and James and little sister to Jack in Maidstone.

MORRIS
James David Morris born on 2nd May 2008 weighing 7lb 13oz. Son to Emma and David Morris in Larkfield.

NESBITT
Jamison and Gina are pleased to announce the arrival of their son Joshua Jamison Nesbitt who was born on the 1st May 2008 at 4.57 pm and weighed 7lb 11oz. He is a brother for Molly Patrica and Elise Amelia.

NOAKES/ McCARTHY
Matthew Noakes and Jade-Louise McCarthy celebrate the birth of their daughter Evie-Jane Sarah Noakes on 4th april 2008 weighing 7lb 5.5oz.

OGDEN
Faye and Simon Ogden of West Malling celebrate the birth of their son Jack Alexander Ogden on 27th April 2008, weighing 8lb 5oz.

OTT
Nicholas and Andrea are delighted to announce the birth of their beautiful son Woody born on 26th April 2008 at Pembury Hospital weighing 7lb.

PATEL
Jay and Jackie of Herne Bay are proud to announce the birth of their son, Rudra, on 20th April 2008. A new baby brother for Dhruvi.

RICH
David and Terry Rich celebrate the birth of their son Zachary David on 17th April 2008 weighing 6lb 8oz.

ROGERS
Dan and Lucy of Herne Bay are delighted to announce the birth of their beautiful daughter, Maisy Grace, on 27th April 2008.

RUDDLE
Sam and Lisa are delighted to announce the birth of their beautiful daughter Lucy May on 7th April 2008 weighing 6lb 12oz at Pembury Hospital.

SHEPHERD
Michael and Leigh of Canterbury are delighted to announce the birth of their son, Ryan Michael Shepherd, on 29th April 2008.

STEER
Debbie and Alan would like to announce the safe arrival of Jake Edward Steer weighing 8lb 4oz, a brother to Joel. Welcome to the world!

TINKER
Robin and Michelle of Sittingbourne are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Amelia Jessica, on 3rd April 2008. A new baby sister for Owen and Lucy.

WAGHORNE
Cameron John Arthur was born on 6th May 2008 weighing 7lb 3oz, son to Martin and Kelly.

WALKER
Tina and Kali are delighted to announce the birth of their son Faris James on 23rd April 2008.

DEATHS

BARNARD
Stanley Harman Barnard of Westgate-on-Sea, formerly of Margate, passed away peacefully on 6th May 2008 aged 81 years. Loving husband of Jean and a much loved father to Julie, Sally and Edward. A loving grandad to Edward and Harriett. He will be sadly missed by all who knew him. The funeral will be held on Thursday 22nd May at Barham at 12.40.

BROWN
Dorothy of Weald passed away peacefully on 7th May 2008. Mother to Russ and Sheila, Grandmother to Phil and Nikki and Great Gran to Ben. All enquiries via Boormans of Tonbridge.

HAMLYN
Francis William passed peacefully away at Rusthall Lodge Nursing Home on 4th May 2008 aged 89 years. Father of Frederick, Helen, Judith and Bridget, Grandfather of 8 grandchildren and 7 great grandchildren. All enquiries to T W Boorman of Tonbridge.

HOLMAN
Colinette Eileen Holman of Maidstone died peacefully on 1st May 2008, aged 88. Funeral service was held at Vinters Park Crematorium at 11.45am on 15th May 2008. All enquiries to Freemans Funerals Service of Maidstone on 01622 753033.

HUNTLEY
Donald Alfred Huntley passed peacefully away on 2nd May 2008. Funeral took place on 14th May 2008 at Charing Crematorium, donations to Co-op Funeral Care Faversham payable to Faversham Cottage Hospital.

KERNICK
Richard Kernick of Maidstone passed away on the 8th May 2008. Funeral Service at Vinters Park on 20th May at 10.15am. All Welcome.

KINSLOW
Doris Ada Rosina died peacefully on the 6th May 2008. To live in the hearts of those left behind is to live forever. Loving mother and Nan.

KISBY
Eileen Kisby passed away 5th May 2008 at Little Court Nursing Home Speldhurst, aged 89 years and after leading a full and active life. She will be missed by all who knew her.

KNIGHT
Olive May Knight of Canterbury, formerly of Fordwich and Bossingham, passed away peacefully on 6th May 2008 aged 92 years. A loving mum and Nan who will be sadly missed by all her family and friends. The funeral was held at Barham on Thursday May 15th.

SEARLE
Ann Searle of Broadstairs passed away peacefully on 9th May 2008 in the Pilgrims Hospice, Margate. She will be sorely missed as a Mother,mFriend and Grandmother.To live in the hearts of those left behind is to live forever.

SEYMOUR
William Frederick Joseph Seymour of Canterbury passed away peacefully on 7th May 2008. He will be sadly missed by his family and friends.The funeral is to be held at Barham on Friday 23rd May at 12.40. No flowers by request.

SMITH
Barry Smith passed away suddenly on 2nd May 2008. He will be sadly missed by all family and friends. Funeral service at Medway Crematorium on 22nd May at 12 noon. Flowers or donations to British Heart Foundation via Horlocks Funeral Service Northfleet.

SPURLING
Arthur Robert George Spurling of Canterbury (formerly of Isleworth) passed away peacefully, in his sleep, on 8th May 2008. A much loved father and grandfather who will be very sadly missed. Reunited with his wife and parents. The funeral will be held at The Garden of England crematoruin, Bobbing, on Thursday 21st May at 10am.

STRAUPMANIS
Martins Straupmanis of Northfleet formerly of Latvia passed away peacefully on 9th May 2008 aged 87 years. Dearly loved husband of Ivy Rose, father and grandfather. Will be sadly missed. Funeral to be held on 23rd May at Medway Crematorium at 10.40am. All friends welcome. Flowers or donations to Lions Hospice Northfleet. We take comfort in the thought that he will remain close to us.

WHITLOCK
George Robert Whitlock of Loose, Maidstone passed away on 10th May 2008. Enquiries to Michael Lawrence Funeral Directors on 01622 725704.

IN MEMORIUM

JEFFERY
Bernard Alan of Folkestone, passed away peacefully on 6th May 2008. Loving Husband, Dad and Grandad. Will be sadly missed by his family and all his friends. Funeral took place on 16th May.

Letters continued from p37

EU, its geo-physical landmass is home to a growing Islamic population that is adjacent to virulent fundamentalist movements. That worries certain European counties which already have large Turkish immigrant communities.

Thus, the prospect of the free movement of a huge influx of Turkish people seeking to settle in western Europe, as has happened by those from eastern Europe, will give rise to even greater tensions and difficulties of assimilation. Our centuries-old balance of Christian values would be affected by considerable numbers holding to an Islamic way of life.

What would happen then would be inevitable: a dystopian backlash. That, in turn, could lead to people wanting to pull their countries out of the European vision, let alone its currency.

Stanford John
Maidstone

Trade more important

Your correspondent Phil Reilly appears to be suffering from economic amnesia (Opinion: inevitability of the euro, May 11).

The argument that we must be part of a large EU block to compete in the world was one of the reasons we joined the Exchange Rate Mechanism in 1990 as a precursor to joining the euro. It was a disaster and led to interest rates that were far too high, one million people unnecessarily losing their jobs and tens of thousands losing their homes. The mistake must not be repeated.

One only needs to look to Italy which, in 2006 had a national debt of 107.8 per cent of GDP, to see that one interest rate for countries with vastly different different monetary requirements is a recipe for disaster.

There is a far bigger and bolder trading opportunity for the UK that does not involve surrendering control of our economy.

Nearly a third of the earth's population now live in a Commonwealth country, many of whom have growth rates far greater than our EU neighbours. A Commonwealth free trade area would leave us in a powerful position as well as enabling us to help the world's poorest out of poverty through the best mechanism: trade.

The only inevitability is that globalisation will continue and the EU will decline.

We would be better off ensuring we have a flexible market economy and are able to arrange our own global trade deals.

Neither of these essential elements are possible whilst we remain members of the European Union.

Nigel Farage MEP
UK Independence Party

Powerfully moving art

Jason deCaires Taylor must be praised for Alluvia, his two underwater female Casts in the River Stour at Canterbury's Westgate. A very good friend drew them to my attention and now I tend to cross on that side of the river to have further views of this wonderful piece.

Here is art we should embrace. No individual interpretation will match another and mine is very personal. Alluvia seems to embody the great Romantic era's idea of the union of humankind (symbolised by the casts) and nature (the river). This is especially valuable in an age in which we are close to losing that once-meaningful alliance.

When illuminated the figures seem alive. Humans cannot breath under water and this art, therefore might reflect life in death. As the nucleus of life, water created all living things on earth and is essential for their survival. Yet it has the power to drown.

Alluvia sets it back in its creative role as the figures have mystical life, with the river flowing around them. Crowning this glory, the illumination might show humans in concord with the universe, as our spirits are embalmed in light (symbolising the sun and stars) and therefore space. Could this exemplify the expanding soul as it grows in the river-flow and the universe? Well done for such a powerful, moving work.

Robert Duncan Martin
Canterbury

Horse has no character

Your statement (comment, May 11) that Mark Wallinger's design for the proposed Ebbsfllet Landmark Project reminds us of the origins of Kent's Invicta horse is way off the mark.

The horse is said to be of a thoroughbred racehorse, but looks more like a commonplace plodding old dray who happens to be white. No character whatsoever. Compare this with the true Invicta Horse – a magnificent beast rearing on its hind legs with flowing mane, giving the impression of movement and power.

Pam Manser
West Farleigh

We need a stallion

Regarding your article about the proposed monument to be built at Ebbsfleet.

To my mind there is only one choice, the

horse. But if it's going to be on the scale of the Angel of the North, and that is magnificent, it's got to have the same wow factor. The symbol of Kent is a romping stallion on his back legs pawing the air with flared nostrils, flowing mane, and tail. Now that would be something!

The horse you have depicted is just standing as though he has just been dumped. Let's have some drama, let's make our Angel of the South so exciting it puts our northern counterpart in the shade.

Peter Marsh

Time to be practical

Why should a huge large non-functional 40m high object, as is envisaged for Ebbsfleet (at an estimated cost of £2m), be welcomed with great excitement and regarded as a work of art; when if instead, a graceful wind-powered generator were to be proposed for the same site (which would have a practical function, and provide environmental benefit to the community) would be greeted by howls of protest?

Let us have something useful.

Ted Prangnell,
Kennington

Why's littering allowed?

The artwork by Jimmy Cauty showing Margate beach as a tip certainly stirred some people up last week.

Cllr Clive Hart was reported as being 'furious'. Well if this is so, why doesn't Clive pop along to the beach any weekend after a nice hot day and see just how it really looks, he should then be even more 'furious'.

All credit to our beach cleaners who work themselves into the sand picking up tons of rubbish, but the visitors try to beat them by leaving even more.

Some litter may always prevail, but here it seems anyone and everyone can come along, have a nice day on our 'very pleasant beach', then trash it by leaving everything they don't want, including the kids' filthy nappies and broken glass. The place can only be described as disgusting for a lot of the time and I can assure him locals do not like it.

The beach is often in a far greater mess than the real refuse tip in Manston Road where you will see everything very tidy. From national newspaper reports it seems many of our visitors would not dare to do such things in their own localities for fear of a £60 ticket so why is it allowed here?

David Harris
Cliftonville

Margate needs help

My heart goes out to the people of Margate, Cliftonville, what have your councillors done for you? Margate needs government funding.

The place is a ghost town thanks to Thanet District Council planners and Kent County Council for allowing Westwood Cross. Remember some of your councillors' famous last words, Westwood Cross will enhance your town centre.

This is a wake up call to the councillors, how can you look your residents in the eye for what you have allowed to happen? Margate was the rock of Thanet with beautiful beaches, but for a town to survive you need shops. The old and the frail can't hop on a free bus to the shops at Westwood.

The town needs a complete makeover to get life back in to the town centre. Never-ending road works in Margate High Street would not happen at Westwood Cross and neither would free parking.

Then there's the dreadful fires we have all suffered, these sites need to be compulsory purchased, so no more harm can come to what is left of poor old Margate.

The £5m facelift to Dreamland also needs to be looked at – what happened to the money? Dreamland is part and parcel of Britain's national heritage, have people forgotten?

Trevor Shonk
Ramsgate

Ignorance of fly-tipper

On Sunday, May 11, at 10.50am, I witnessed a car pull into the Commonside car park on Hayes Common, Bromley.

The driver had already fly-tipped one black bag of garden waste before I approached her. Bromley Council make adequate provision for the disposal of garden waste, with several sites located across the borough, but this thoughtless woman had driven to the common instead.

She failed to comprehend that, although it was only soil which had been dumped, she was still caught in the act of fly-tipping. She could see nothing wrong in disposing of her waste in such a manner. After a severe reprimand from myself and much pleading not to report the incident, she drove away with another bag of garden waste in her car.

There are already Spanish bluebells growing adjacent to the car park, which may become hybridised with our native species nearby, adversely affecting the genetic stock.

Hopefully this thoughtless woman was learned a lesson. As yet I haven't reported this incident to the council, but if asked I will be obliged to provide vehicle details.

Alan Baker
Winguy

Best wishes for pier

It was with great interest and nostalgia, I read your article on May 4.

In the autumn of 1954 my husband and I went to live in Deal so I could take up the position of contracting engineer for concrete piling. Work began in the autumn and the people of Deal and Walmer took a great interest in the progress and method of construction. Permission for the new pier was given by the Government due to the previous pier being demolished as a result of a shipping accident.

The workforce were mostly local men – fishermen and labourers and those who also manned the Walmer lifeboat.

As the pier grew in length so did the size of the concrete piles supporting it. The final ones for the head of the pier came by special train from Stockton on Tees via London.

I recently visited the pier with my family and felt the same warmth towards it and the people who had constructed it.

Sadly neither my husband or I were at the opening as we had accepted a job building a steel works in India for the Indian Government.

However, I still have the programme of the event and wish Deal much happiness with the renovated Pier.

Shirley Hebditch
Tunbridge Wells

Stop wasting money

KentTV's failure makes you wonder why KCC is so keen to launch another white elephant which is not needed, not wanted and is a complete waste of taxpayers' money – Kent Health Watch.

Although there is sometimes confusion over how and to whom disgruntled patients should complain, the answer is not to create yet another agency to cause even more confusion. We already have the KCC Health and Scrutiny Committee and each health Trust has a PALS (Patient Advocacy and Liaison Service).

You can also complain direct to the hospital trust or primary care trust that treated you. People also complain to their councillors or MPs. What on earth does KCC think it can provide that's lacking elsewhere?

If KCC has money to spare, there are plenty of ways it could help to improve the NHS but Health Watch is not one of them. Bin it now and knock a third of a million pounds off our council tax!

David Shortt
CHEK (Concern for Health in East Kent)

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Fashion showcase aids cancer fund

FASHION students from the University College for the Creative Arts showcased their talents to raise money for cancer care.

Undergraduates Donna Essex, 20, from Rochester, and Emma Brown, 21, from Ashford, held a fashion show in aid of Marie Curie Cancer Care in London on Tuesday.

The show featured work by 15 fellow students from the Rochester campus. Donna said she wanted to help the charity after her great grandmother died of cancer.

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Awards enhance learning

STUDENTS at a Kent college have received awards and money to invest in their training and education.

The Jack Petchy Achievement Awards provided individual grants to 21 students from Bromley College of Further and Higher Education.

As the first in what will be a monthly awards scheme, the money will allow the college to boost funds to provide extra resources for students.

Jane Phelps, head of public services at the college, said: "Students have been able to choose how the monthly £300 grant is used so that it benefits their group as a whole.

"It has enabled them to have an input into purchasing what they feel is needed to help them achieve. The additional funds have been put into enhancing the learning experience for everybody."

Emmie Beale, who is studying animal care at the college, is using her £300 to buy a pair of breeding chipmunks for her department.

The charity works to give grants to projects and programmes that benefit young people aged 11-25.

Peter Jones, the college's principal, said: "I am delighted that Bromley College has become part of the Jack Petchey Awards.

"It's an excellent scheme that has motivated our students and raised their confidence and self-esteem. The ceremony provided a great opportunity to hear about, and celebrate, student success."

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Cultivate your career change

A MOTHER and daughter have teamed up to offer green-fingered residents a way to train to become professional gardeners.

By **PHIL REILLY**
phil.reilly@kosmedia.co.uk

Keen horticulturalists Lesley Haggar, 60, and daughter Rebbekah Taplin, 40, from Rodmersham, near Sittingbourne, have founded the Gardening Training Group.

The group pairs applicants up with head gardeners and private garden owners, who will then train them for two days a week over the course of a year.

Mrs Haggar, who previously worked as a regional co-ordinator for the Women's Farm and Garden Association, said the scheme was not necessarily aimed at school leavers but rather people looking to switch careers.

She said she was looking for enthusiastic and passionate gardeners.

Mrs Haggar said: "It's so lovely when you meet someone who is in a job they hate and you can give them the opportunity to do something they love.

"You have to be a passionate gardener to do it.

"You don't get good money unless you're on telly, and it is dirty, hard work in all weathers."

The pair aim to arrange for people to work in gardens that are close to where they live and they have a host of gardens lined up across the county.

Mrs Haggar said: "It works a bit like an employment agency. I find suitable placement gardens for the trainees as close to their home as possible.

"That's the joy of it. They can travel to the garden and come home again.

"In the past, many garden owners were expected to provide housing for their gardeners.

"Years ago, councils that had parks and gardens could train people from the bottom up, but it doesn't really happen like that now.

"The National Trust and English Heritage have various schemes, but they are three-year residential schemes."

Workshops

The group attracted interest from across the country after being mentioned in Country Living magazine earlier this year, but Mrs Haggar said they only had agreements so far for gardens in Kent and Sussex.

The Gardening Training Group is also hoping to set a variety of practical workshops and garden tours, although these have been put on hold temporarily due to the demand for the training scheme.

To apply to be a trainee, or for more information, call 01795 427777 or email thegtg@btinternet.com.

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Call Julian Middleton on 01227 450 222
www.thisisventure.co.uk
canterbury@thisisventure.co.uk

Due to the further expansion in our referencing department, we **URGENTLY** require **full** or **part-time:**

- DATA INPUT CLERKS
- GENERAL OFFICE STAFF

You will need to have experience in using computers, be accurate and enthusiastic and be able to work as part of a team. A good telephone manner is essential for this position. Full training will be given and the minimum starting salary is £13,500 for full time employees.

Please telephone **Michelle** on **01227 250028** for further details and an application form.

COBLANDS

Coblands Nurseries Ltd

Seasonal Nursery Assistants

Based at Tonbridge
£5.75 per hour

This is an excellent opportunity for anyone who enjoys working outside, has a keen interest in plants and wishes to improve their plant knowledge.

The position is available from May to the beginning of September 2008.

This role will involve potting, weeding, watering and general maintenance of a wide range of container grown stock along with preparing plants ready for customer orders.

The ideal candidate will work well as part of a team, be self-motivated and have a positive outlook on life.

If you feel you have the necessary skills for this position, please send your CV and letter of application to Jo Dury, Coblands Nurseries, Trench Road, Tonbridge, Kent, TN11 9NG or email Jo.dury@coblands.co.uk

Closing Date: 28th May 2008 www.coblands.co.uk

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We'll turn a talent into a trade

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Carillion is one of the UK's leading construction companies. By building and maintaining new schools and hospitals, houses and offices, motorways and rail links, we're improving the quality of life for everyone. The construction industry relies on skilled people, and we are committed to training the next generation of crafts people.

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Opportunities throughout Kent

Driver Hotline 0845 61 20 444
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NVQ Manager

APT is seeking to recruit an experienced NVQ manager. The right person will be:

- experienced in Health & Social Care NVQs & CSCI Regs
- Have knowledge of NVQs in other subjects
- able to manage a team of NVQ assessors and IVs
- able take responsibility for External Verification
- target orientated
- able work with senior management in achieving targets
- flexible and able to work with a diverse workforce

CV with details of salary expectations to:
Ability Professional Training
118 Main Road
Sidcup
DA14 6NE

info@training.ac

Retail Motor Trade
E-MARKETING MANAGER
OTE £40k + Car + Benefits

Premier Autocentres is a family run business operating from premises in Blackfen, near Sidcup for over 40 years. We employ 35 staff and sell in excess of 1,000 new and used vehicles annually.

We are looking for a highly creative individual to help set up and operate our e-marketing department. The main duties of this key position will include maintaining and updating our content managed websites for both sales and aftersales departments, communicating with internet customers and prospects by email, customer database management, email marketing and data collection & analysis.

Proficiency in the use of MS Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint) and Outlook software is a prerequisite, as is a high attention to detail, excellent and persuasive oral and written communication skills (spelling, grammar, professional presentation), experience in digital image capture/editing, a sound knowledge/interest in cars and a great sense of humour!

Please email your application & CV to:
patrick.s@premierautocentres.com

Premier Autocentres, 184-214 Blackfen Road, Sidcup, Kent DA15 8PT

LGV2
MULTI DROP DRIVERS
Sidcup
OTE £27k

Driversinc LTD are currently looking to strengthen there agency team in Sidcup

Starting between 5am and 6am, Monday to Friday you will be required to deliver soft drink products in and around South east London and Kent area ensuring the highest level of customer service.

The successful applicants will have at least 6 months multi-drop experience, have no more than 6 points on there license.

In return we offer an Attractive **salary** with a job related **bonus**, and 24 days paid holiday.

In addition we issue a full uniform and a company mobile phone.

If you feel you have the necessary experience and right attitude for this position please contact

Driversinc on
07815060629

Driversinc working with A blue chip soft drinks manufacture.

ROCKDALE

If you want to make a difference to older people, become a

SUPPORT WORKER

at Rockdale's sheltered housing complex situated in central Sevenoaks

Salary from £15,886
36 hours over 4.5 days per week to include 1 Sunday in 3

Experience preferred but training provided in all aspects of helping older people to maintain their independence.

Parking on site,contrib. pension scheme, health cash-back plan.

Please ring Jay Drake or Jane Vaughan on 01732 458762, for more information and an application form.

This post will be subject to an Enhanced CRB Disclosure

Caring about You…

With an ever increasing volume of work, we need additional Carers, Support Workers & Nurses to join our agency team

- Excellent Pay & Holiday
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- Varied, Flexible Work
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Call your local office for more info:

Ashford:	01233 633350
Canterbury:	01227 782070
Maidstone:	01622 756348
Or for Community Care:	01303 250200

Own transport needed

Registered with Commission for Social Care Inspection (CSCI)
Nurse Plus is an equal opportunities employer (agy)

…Caring for Others

Travel Consultant

Salary: £17,861 to £22,907 pro-rata
15 hours per week over 2 days

CHATHAM•MAIDSTONE•ROCHESTER
MIDKent COLLEGE
an associate college of the UNIVERSITY OF KENT

We are seeking to recruit an experienced Travel Consultant to operate a fully ABTA bonded agency based at our Rochester site. The ideal candidate will have 2-3 years retail travel experience and be able to provide a comprehensive range of travel services to students, college staff and the general public. The consultant will work alongside the Travel & Tourism department in Mid Kent College to provide a training environment for students who are studying a range of Travel & Tourism qualifications. The successful candidate will have excellent communication skills, ability to work on own initiative or part of a team, excellent customer service skills and be able to demonstrate a positive and friendly approach.

The College selection process will reflect our commitment to safeguarding young people and vulnerable adults and any offer of employment is subject to a satisfactory Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure and List 99 clearance.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please call the Personnel department on 01634 845402 (24 hour answer machine) or e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk quoting the appropriate job title.

Closing date: Friday, 30 May 2008

Mid-Kent College is committed to Equal Opportunities and encourages applications from all sections of the community and welcomes applications from under represented groups including black, minority ethnic and disabled people.

The Bull - Linton

The Highwayman - Horsmonden

EVER THOUGHT OF RUNNING YOUR OWN PUB?

SHEPHERD NEAME CURRENTLY HAVE SOME EXCITING OPPORTUNITIES IN THE MAIDSTONE & TONBRIDGE AREAS

The Rose & Crown - Hadlow

OPEN DAY

AT

THE SPITFIRE

The Harrow - Hadlow

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Wednesday 28th May 2008
10.00am - 6.00pm

Come and meet us to discuss in detail what we can offer

Please call Linda Reece to book an appointment on
01795 542132 **www.shepherdneame.co.uk**
Email: lreece@shepherd-neame.co.uk

Key Features of our tenancy agreement include:
Low cost entry
(average £15k - £30k capital required)
Complete Training Package
Ongoing business development and marketing support

Park Avenue After School Club require an
out going fun enthusiastic individual with experience in working with primary age children to run their after school club. Hours 2.30-6pm Mon-Fri term time & school holidays (flexible). Also required a full time nursery assistant.

The suitable candidate for each post must possess a relevant NVQ level 3 or above certificate in childcare, and have a working knowledge of the Foundation stage curriculum. Posts subject to CRB & reference checks.

Send CV to Park Avenue Nursery, Victoria Park, Deal, CT14 9AL
or email semcgahan@hotmail.com

BODY PERSON/COACH BUILDER

Arriva is one of the UK's largest bus operators and in Southern Counties we have a fleet of 620 vehicles and some 1,800 staff based at 14 depots serving customers in the Essex, Sussex, Surrey and Kent areas.

We currently have a vacancy for a Body Person/Coach Person at Maidstone Depot, reporting directly to the Engineering Manager.

You will assist with daily activities that will include:

- Body repairs to our fleet
- Accident repairs
- Preparation for repaints

Personal qualities should include:

- High quality vehicle coachwork repairs and presentation standards
- Quality bodywork repairs and fabrication skills
- Flexible approach to hours of work
- Self-motivated
- Adherence with all H & S matters
- Clean driving licence; experience of driving large vehicles preferred but not essential

To apply, please send your CV and a covering letter to: **Mr Bob Taylor, Engineering Manager, Arriva Southern Counties, Invicta House, Armstrong Road, Maidstone, Kent, ME15 6TX.**

Closing date for applications is: Tuesday 27th May 2008

Arriva is committed to diversity. If you're good you're welcome.

Committed to delivering a better service ARRIVA

Ready for your best move yet?

A major resource centre in Kent specialising in the care of adults with physical disabilities

Are you having trouble making ends meet?
Don't think you have the skills to kick start your career?
Need to fill that blank space left by your child going to school. What about a Career in Care?

Strode Park Foundation is a long established registered charity and one of the largest resource centres of its kind in Kent. As part of our continuing development, we now have the following opportunities;

LIFESTYLES ACADEMY DEPUTY MANAGER

37.5 Hours per week, 9am – 5pm
£19,350.00 per annum

Your role is to deputise for the Lifestyles Academy Manager and ensure that their instructions and values are continued and promoted in their absence. You will participate directly in the delivery of care, educational and other elements of the service which include support plans, recruitment, training, supervision and maintaining standards of service delivery.

CARE ASSISTANTS

Full/Part Time, Days/Nights, flexible hours by arrangement
£5.92 per hour basic, £6.57 per hour unsocial
(Additional 20p per hour for NVQ Qualified)

Experienced in care work or not, this is your chance to learn to do care work safely and properly.

COMMUNITY CARE ASSISTANTS

Hourly Rates range from £6.12 - £9.44
(Dependant on shift including evenings and weekends, Additional 20p per hour for NVQ Qualified)

You will be an integral part of a considerately managed care team, supporting people at home so they can live independently.

We offer all Care Staff fully funded, structured training. We know that we can only look after disabled people if we look after our staff properly. Pick up the 'phone and find out what you're missing!

Any of these sound like the job for you?

To apply, call 01227 373 292 to request an application pack or e-mail: recruitment@strodepark.org.uk

We Will Not Accept Calls from Agencies

Applications will only be accepted on the application forms and must be returned to us by Friday 23rd May 2008

Strode Park House • Herne • Herne Bay • Kent CT6 7NE

Valuing people as individuals

Registered Charity No. 227794

The Bull Hotel, Wrotham Requires
Part time bar/restaurant staff

Must be available weekends. Flexible hours. Experienced preferred.
Hourly rate depends on age and experience.
All applicants must be over 18 years of age.

If you are interested phone **Martin** or **Clarissa** on **01732 789800** or email **bullhotel@unicombox.co.uk**

FULL TIME PERSON

required for international horse transport company to join a small team arranging import/export documents and liaising with clients world wide. Must have own transport due to location.

Please apply in writing to **John Parker, Little Owl Barn, Pedlinge, Hythe CT21 4JJ**
jp.international@lineone.net
www.johnparkerinternational.com

Expanding Food Wholesalers based in Goudhurst, Kent require the following positions,

Night Operations Co-ordinator

Experienced Night Operations Co-ordinator to ensure smooth running of collecting, loading and despatch of customer orders/invoices. Sunday to Thursday 11pm to 7am.

Night Picker and Night Loader

Food wholesalers require two people for warehouse night work, to collate customer orders, check and loading of goods to vans for despatch. Experience preferred but not essential. Sunday to Thursday 11pm to 7am.

Georgina Davis, Human Resources, Turners Fine Foods Goudhurst, Kent. Tele 01580 212818
E-mail: georgina@turnersfinefoods.co.uk

BOOKKEEPER

We require a bookkeeper at our Head Office in Margate. You will be responsible for all normal bookkeeping duties such as Purchase/ Sales Ledger, monthly wages using Iris, Sage Instant version 10, bank reconciliations.

Hours possible to suit, wages subject to experience.

For further details contact:
Stephen Payne MD
St Nicholas Lodge UK Limited
16 Hawley Square, Margate
Kent CT9 5JS
Tel: 01843 232321

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08450 525267

URGENTLY REQUIRED L.G.V 1, 2 & NON L.G.V DRIVERS, DAYS, NIGHTS & WEEKENDS

We have vacancies throughout Kent. You need to be over the age of 25 and have no more than 6 points on your licence for insurance reasons. In return we offer 24 days paid holiday (pro rata), uniform and regular work.

For more information please call Anna on 08450 525267.

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TRACK FOREPERSON

CRAYFORD GREYHOUND TRACK

Our Track Manager is looking for a deputy to lead the track maintenance team. Duties will include preparation of the racing surface and you will also deputise for the Track Manager in his absence. Electrical and mechanical knowledge is essential as is a full driving licence and proven supervisory skills. 40 hpw including our 2 race evenings on Mon & Sat.

As part of Ladbrokes, Crayford will offer the successful applicant a good financial and benefits package. Previous applicants need not apply. Call 01322 557836 for an information pack and application form or email info@crayford.com

Closing date 06/06/08

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The average salary in IT is £38k

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We train you to acquire valuable skills & IT industry qualifications. 97% of students trained by Advent have been offered jobs.
0800 138 1419 For a free brochure (quote ref: KOS)

Electrician & Mate required

Electrician and mate required to work locally in Tunbridge Wells. Immediate start, to work nights, minimum of 2 months work. Must have CSC card and JIB electrician grade.

Please contact Chris on 07977 439353 or Email chris.k.daley@gmail.com

A Residential Home for adults with learning disabilities require the following positions:

- **Part-time Deputy Manager**
- **Part-time Carers (£6 per hour)**
- **Must Have Own Transport**

Please contact **Mrs Brooks** on **01795 886220** or email **ellenscourt@btconnect.com**

venture CANTERBURY

Telesales - £7.50/hr (£10+/hour OTE)

Come and have fun with the UK's leading brand in portrait photography! We are seeking a 'big personality'; someone who loves being on the telephone, has infectious energy, humour and a huge will to succeed. No cold calling. Part-time, evening/weekend (flexible). Call 01227 450222. Check our website at www.thisisventure.co.uk, canterbury@thisisventure.co.uk

Two Rare and Exciting Opportunities.....

Invicta Motors, Ashford are part of the Cambria Automobiles Group, a UK multi franchised organisation. We are a well established, high volume successful Ford Dealership positioned in one of the fastest growing towns in England, offering the perfect opportunity for the business to continue its growth.

The following two opportunities have become available:

New Car Sales Controller

- Organised individual and a good planner
- A flexible approach to working hours
- Good Communication and Motivation skills
- Previous Management/Controller experience essential with a proven track record

New Car Sales Executive

- Have an excellent standard of verbal and written communication
- Be organised and Customer focused
- A flexible approach to working hours
- Presentable and punctual

In return, we offer the opportunity to sell probably the most exciting range of vehicles available in 2008. We will also provide you with the use of a company vehicle. If your skills match those required, we are keen to hear from you.

Call for a confidential discussion or write to: **Parm Randhawa**
General Sales Manager, Invicta Motors, The Parade, Orbital Park, Ashford, Kent. TN24 OHT
Tel: (01233) 504400 Fax: (01233) 504425
Email: parm.randhawa@summitautogroup.co.uk Website: www.summitautogroup.co.uk

SHELL SERVICE STATION
requires full time staff for immediate start on the M20 at Hythe. Working on a shift basis, day and night vacancies available
Up to £6.70 per hour.
Leave details on 07510 861242
Collect application from Shell Folkestone, M20, J11. Kent. CT21 4GH

To advertise in this section
01303 817040

MOTORSPORT

BrandsHatch

Venue Maintenance Assistant

To ensure the upkeep and maintenance of the venue and its facilities, the Brands Hatch circuit is looking for a Venue Maintenance Assistant to join its expanding Venue Services Team.

The successful candidates will assist in the general maintenance and upkeep of the Brands Hatch grounds and facilities, ensuring that all areas are presented to a high standard at all times, as well as being fully aware of and complying at all times with COSHH regulations, Noise at Work Regulations and Heath and Safety at Work.

Having previously worked in grounds maintenance (golf club, sports venue, park, spectator attraction, private estate or similar), they will have an eye for detail, a pride in appearance and be willing to work a flexible pattern including some weekends.

Relevant training, experience or qualifications in ground care, horticulture and/or estate management will be a strong advantage.

Please apply in writing, including salary expectations and current CV to:

Joanne Brown, Human Resources Department, MotorSport Vision, Brands Hatch, Fawkham, Longfield, Kent DA3 8NG

joanne.brown@motorsportvision.co.uk

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Hays is Australia's largest specialist recruitment consultancy and has 140 offices in 47 locations throughout Australia, New Zealand and South East Asia. We employ over 10,000 temporary workers every week, find permanent jobs for over 20,000 people every year and have a turnover of $835m.

A strong economy, trade links with Asia, high population growth and record levels of recruitment spend are ensuring Hays' continued growth and further investment into specialist areas.

As an outgoing, experienced recruiter you must be serious about a move to Australia and as soon as next month you could be working for one of the worlds largest specialist recruitment companies, spending the weekends on the beach, drinking with new friends overlooking the water and experiencing life in one of Australia's major cities.

You must have knowledge of the recruitment process, experience in the use of various methods to generate candidates and a strong sales/results driven background in business development.

For further information or to apply, contact Diane Townson at Hays GlobaLink.

E globalink@hays.com T 020 7630 6600

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We are a dynamic team where you can make your mark...

We get results in our state-of-the-art building set in landscaped gardens and can offer a vibrant atmosphere and excellent opportunities to make a difference. We unleash the enthusiasm and expertise of our people and have won The Sunday Times "Best Companies to work for" award three years running. After spectacular growth in 2007, and as the market leader in Holiday Add-ons, (Airport Parking, Hotels and Theatre/Theme Park breaks) we now employ 900 people across the UK & Germany with a turnover in 2008/09 of £170 million.

We are looking for a Product Business Development Manager to grow our Travel Insurance portfolio working within our dynamic B2B team, based at our modern offices in Hythe, Kent.

Product Business Development Manager

Salary up to £25K (DOE). Plus company benefits

Requirements

- Great presentation, numerical and analytical skills
- Enthusiastic, pro active, self motivating and ambitious
- Strong negotiation skills and flexibility
- Brilliant people skills, inspiring top performance
- Seeks challenge, influence and responsibility; is open to and
- encourages change
- Is fluent and coherent in verbal and written communication
- Previous experience of selling travel insurance desirable
- Willing to travel; clean driving licence

Interested? Then please send your CV and covering letter to **Holiday Extras, Newingreen, Hythe, Kent CT21 4JF** or to **recruitment@holidayextras. com**

Closing Date: 27th May 2008

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"How can we make our marketing even more effective?"

By being well informed.

DATABASE ANALYST

Competitive salary + benefits | Folkestone

Involved in everything from investments and insurance to holidays, the Saga Group is an innovative leader in today's dynamic and lucrative over-50s market. And every day, sophisticated marketing techniques are helping us target our customers more effectively through a profound understanding of their behaviour and buying patterns.

This is where you enter the equation in this varied and interesting role. By producing detailed models, database analysis and management information, you'll assess our current marketing activity and media channels. In doing so, you'll identify opportunities to enhance their effectiveness and play a key part in developing our customer contact strategy.

As the results of your work affect all divisions of the Saga Group, the potential to make an impact and develop your career is immense. To seize the opportunity, you'll ideally combine a background in statistics, mathematics or physics with marketing experience. High levels of numeracy and analytical ability are a must. SQL programming skills would be a distinct advantage, although training will be given. And if you're well motivated, able to resolve problems effectively and capable of prioritising a busy workload, we'd definitely like to meet you.

Apart from excellent prospects, you can look forward to generous benefits including private healthcare, pension scheme and an active social club.

Ready to build an exciting career in direct marketing and marketing intelligence? Then you're ready to talk to us. Please write enclosing your CV and salary expectations to Sally-Jane Plenge, Senior Group HR Officer, Saga Group Limited, The Saga Building, Enbrook Park, Folkestone, Kent CT20 3SE or e-mail: human.resources@saga.co.uk

Closing date: 6 June 2008. Please quote reference: SG207/KOS.

saga.co.uk

SAGA
Saga people do things properly

CAD Design Draughtsman required;
The candidate must be fully conversant with Autocad, a qualified trade background ideally in joinery and previous site experience. An ability to work under pressure and be able to build relationships with Architects, Designers and professional consultants needs to be demonstrated. Please email CV's in the first instance to garry.bunclark@isgcathedral.com

Moments Fostering are recruiting
FOSTER CARERS
We are holding an Open Evening on the 24th of June between 5pm and 9 pm, at the Marine Hotel Marine Parade Tankerton.
If you can provide a safe & caring home, please call in for an informal chat.
For more information please call us on 01227 479444 or email danielcroft@momentspfa.plus.com

Assistant Manager
Required For Residential Care Home In Folkestone
We are looking to recruit an enthusiastic and committed person. Must have Minimum NVQ Level 3 Qualification, and Experience in the role above.
Please call Miss Julia Carter (Home Manager) on 01303 254019
Subject to satisfactory CRB Check

The Bull Hotel, Wrotham Requires
Qualified Chef
Minimum 3 years experience.
Part Time & Full Time positions available.
Competence or run kitchen in absence of Head Chef.
Negotiable salary depending on experience.
If you are interested phone **Martin** or **Clarissa** on **01732 789800** or email **bullhotel@unicombox.co.uk**

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You can also find the latest jobs online: **www.jobsforkent.co.uk**

KOSMEDIA | Telephone: 01303 817040 | Fax: 01303 817004 | Email: appointments@kosmedia.co.uk | Online: www.jobsforkent.co.uk

Cheyne Middle School, Jefferson Road, Sheerness, Kent ME12 2PU (01795 662474)
Teacher of KS3 Science
required for September 2008. This is a permanent position at Cheyne - the school is being reorganised in July 2009 and from September 2009 will be a secondary school (probably an academy).
There is the possibility of a TLR (2c or 2a) for the right candidate. Applications from NQTs are welcome.
To discuss this opportunity further please contact Mrs M Snelling (Acting Headteacher) or email maggie@cheyne.kent.sch.uk
Closing date 30 May 2008

ADMISSIONS APPEALS PANEL MEMBERS
The Folkestone Academy requires volunteers to act as members on independent panels for admission appeals. Volunteers are required from all backgrounds, both with and without any history of educational involvement. Expenses will be payable.
For an application form please contact Suzanne Phillips at:
The Folkestone Academy,
Academy Lane, Folkestone, Kent, CT19 5AP
or by email: admin@folkestoneacademy.com
Only applications submitted on the Academy application form will be considered
Closing Date: Friday 23 May 2008

Teachers Urgently Required
teaching personnel
For regular supply work or a choice of long term and permanent work, register with Teaching Personnel TODAY!
Let us market you to the schools and for the positions of your choice!
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Caretaker required
Culverstone Green Primary School, Wrotham Road, Culverstone, Meopham, Kent. Tel: 01732 822568
Head Teacher: Mrs Ruth Abbott

Start date: **15th June 2008**
Closing date: **30th May 2008**
Interviews: **3rd June 2008**

Salary: **Kent Scheme 7-12 £13,959 - £16,057 per annum pro rata**
32 ½ hours per week - split shift - 52 weeks per year. 24 days holiday per year

We are seeking to appoint a caretaker to carry out duties including acting as keyholder, some cleaning, general repairs, maintenance of swimming pool, crossing patrol etc. For further information and to request an application form, please contact the school. Appointment will be subject to police checks and references. Visits to the school are encouraged (by appointment only).

Cleaner also required 2 hours per day.

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Swale Borough Council
North Kent Coast

Housing Administration Officer (Housing Options Team)
37 hours per week
Salary range £14,625 - £18,285

In Swale, we are committed to tackling the causes of homelessness, and need confident and highly organised problem solvers to help clients keep their homes or, if homelessness is unavoidable, find the best housing solution available. If you enjoy using your own initiative, have a good common sense approach and are looking for a challenge, this role could be for you.

We are looking for an energetic and dynamic individual to join the team to provide administration support to the Housing Options Team and assist them in providing advice services and preventing homelessness amongst applicants. Your role will include maintaining management systems, taking and dealing with enquiries from the general public and ensuring the smooth running of the office. Therefore, excellent communication skills, particularly in the areas of motivation and customer listening will be essential.

You must have good IT skills, strong written skills, be flexible and innovative and enjoy working in a team as well as willing to learn new skills.

In addition to salary, we can offer you a generous annual leave allowance, paid bank holidays, flexi-time and the Local Government final salary pension scheme.

For further information and an application form contact Human Resources, Swale Borough Council, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 3HT. Telephone Sittingbourne (01795) 417414 (24 hour voice mail) quoting reference number 306HO1.

E-Mail: hr@swale.gov.uk Website: http://jobs.swale.gov.uk

Closing Date: 26 May 2008
Interviews are expected to be held w/c 9 June 2008

Ashford Christ Church
A Church of England Specialist Maths and Computing College
Headteacher: Catherine Barber
Millbank Road, Kingsnorth, Ashford, Kent TN23 3HG
Awarded Beacon Status for Mathematics and Maths & Computing Specialist Schools Status

Christ Church is a successful Church of England High School in the market town of Ashford, Kent. Headteacher, Catherine Barber, has been appointed to lead the school in its next phase of progress and innovation. We seek to recruit innovative practitioners who will inspire and motivate our students to reach their full potential. Christ Church is at the heart of its community and proud of its Christian ethos. It is fully inclusive and offers excellent pastoral care to students within a welcoming environment.

Headteacher and Board of Governors are seeking to recruit a passionate, hardworking and dedicated

DRAMA TEACHER/SPECIALIST
(From September 2008)

We have a fabulous opportunity for a full-time Drama Specialist in a successful and dynamic department and school. Ashford Christ Church an Investor in People is ideally placed to support a newly qualified teacher through their NQT year or help an experienced specialist to reach their professional and personal development aims. As the recent Investor in People post recognition report stated:

'People provided lots of examples of good management practice and described how they felt well-motivated and supported with a sound understanding of what they were expected to achieve, and how they got feedback about how they were performing; the common factor in all these examples being the skill, ability and commitment displayed by the manager concerned.'

Appointment is subject to Enhanced CRB check.
Interview dates: Immediate after receipt of Application Form.
Teaching Application Form obtainable by visiting our website: www.ashfordchristchurch.com School info/Vacancies
For further information and an application pack please contact HR Officer Samantha Sullivan at samanthasullivan@ashfordchristchurch.com Telephone: 01233 623465/652613 or Fax: 01233 636861
Ashford Christ Church is an Equal Opportunities employer

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A Kent based company you can rely on

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Sheppey College

Sheppey College is part of Canterbury College. Canterbury College is a leading FE and HE College which offers opportunities and an environment in which our 800 staff and 12,000 learners can reach their potential, so we can achieve our goal of being one of the best Colleges by 2010. To support this, the College has been undergoing a £50 million re-development, which opened in January 2008. We are now developing plans for Phase 3, for completion in 2012.

Lecturer Construction - Trowel Occupations and Key Skills Post Ref: 08/72
18.5 hrs per week, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum

Lecturer Administration to Level 3 and Cross College Key Skills Post Ref: 08/73
18.5 hrs per week, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum

Senior Learning Resources Officer Post Ref: S3
37 hrs per week, salary starting from £20,775 per annum

Academic Support Assistant Post Ref: 08/74
18.5 hrs per week, salary starting from £14,535 pro rata per annum

For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.
The closing date for the above posts Tuesday 27 May 2008 at 12 noon.

Staff benefits include:
- Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme
- Generous Holiday Allowance
- Proximity to Mainbus / Train Stations
- Staff Discount Scheme

Canterbury College is an equal opportunity employer

To advertise in this section 01303 817040

Inspire & motivate & develop

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Secure Training Centre Assistants

Medway Secure Training Centre

Rochester

Days: £19,086 pa (rotating shifts)

Nights: £17,573 pa (7 nights on, 7 nights off)

Pay award pending

Being a Training Centre Assistant (TCA) isn't just about making sure that the centre rules are followed. It's also about being adaptable, disciplined, non-judgmental and helping to bring out the best in the young people you work with.

At Medway Secure Training Centre we provide caring support and ongoing education for sentenced and remanded young people aged 12-17 years. As one of the leaders in our field, our approach aims to help them modify their behaviour and adopt a new outlook to life.

Working directly with the young people, motivating them to complete their daily tasks, providing advice and guidance and helping them in education are just a few of the things you'll do in this busy role. As a versatile team player with excellent communication and interpersonal skills, lots of energy and enthusiasm, your firm but fair approach will enable you to gain their respect as you work with them to achieve a positive outcome.

Our success at Medway relies on our positive and friendly team which is based on mutual trust, an open mind, honesty and integrity. If you think you've got what it takes to make a real difference, you could train for a career that's both challenging and rewarding.

Interested? Call us for a short telephone interview on: 01634 823322 Monday to Friday, 9.00am to 4.00pm quoting ref: KOSTC5 by 23rd May 2008. An application pack will be sent to candidates who are invited to the assessment day on Thursday 29th May 2008.

Please note that these vacancies are subject to a 10 year checkable history and the strict vetting standards set by Rebound and the Secretary of State for the Home Office.

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Old Charlton Road, Dover, Kent CT16 2QB
Tel: 01304 201551
require

TEACHER OF CITIZENSHIP

commencing 1st September 2008

An exciting opportunity for an enthusiastic and energetic teacher to join the developing Citizenship Department in this 11-18 Catholic School.

Apply in writing to Mr Atkin (Headteacher) with c.v. or e-mail office@st-edmunds-dover.kent.sch.uk

An enhanced CRB disclosure check will be required
Closing date: Friday 23rd May Interviews w/c 26th May

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Canterbury College

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Director of Higher Education and International Provision Post Ref: DHEIP
37 hours per week, salary circa £55,000
(Closing date: Friday 23 May 2008 at 12 noon. Interview date: 5 June 2008.)

Lecturer Brickwork Post Ref: L16
37 hrs per week, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 per annum

Lecturer Basic Skills for Construction Students Post Ref: 08/68
37 hrs per week, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 per annum

Lecturer Public Services Post Ref: 06/92
37 hrs per week, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 per annum

HR Manager Post Ref: 05/75
37 hours per week, salary circa £45,000

Assessor - Motor Vehicle/Motor Sport Post Ref: 08/70
37 hrs per week, salary range £17,727- £25,418 per annum

Trainer Demonstrator - Plumbing Post Ref: 08/69
37 hrs per week, salary starting from £18,375 per annum

Trainer Demonstrator - Motor Vehicle/Motor Sport Post Ref: 08/67
37 hrs per week, salary starting from £18,375 per annum

Trainer Demonstrator - Sport, Leisure, Travel & Tourism Post Ref: 04/106
18.5 hrs per week, salary starting from £18,375 pro rata per annum

Senior Nursery Officer - Education and Curriculum Post Ref: 08/71
18.5 hrs per week, salary starting from £16,364 pro rata per annum

Nursery Assistant Post Ref: 05/82
37 hrs per week, salary starting from £11,269 per annum

Applications Technician - Advanced Post Ref: ATA
37 hrs per week, salary starting from £20,775 per annum

Supply NVQ Assessors required in the following areas:
Various hours available, salary range £17,727 - £25,418 pro rata per annum

Early Years Post Ref: NVQ/EY

Play work Post Ref: NVQ/PW

For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.
The closing date for the above posts Tuesday 27 May 2008 at 12 noon.

Staff benefits include:
- Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme
- Sports Hall and Gym
- Proximity to Mainbus / Train Stations
- Generous Holiday Allowance
- Close to City Centre
- Staff Discount Scheme

Canterbury College is an equal opportunity employer

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

KOS MEDIA (PUBLISHING) LTD TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. Advertisements will be accepted only on the express condition that the advertiser warrants that the advertisement does not in any way contravene any existing legislation and in particular the Trade and Description Act 1968 and the Consumer Credit Act 1974.
2. It is the responsibility of all advertisers to ensure that all advertising meets all forms of government legislation and KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd (the "media owner") takes no responsibility for liability in errors and omissions to the content of our media.
3. All rates quoted are subject to VAT at the rate currently in force at the time the advertisement appears.
4. All rates within the annual advertising agreement will be rate protected for 12 months from the first date of publication under the signed agreement.
5. Any unsuitable material posted on any website belonging to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd by the advertiser or any associated third party will be removed or refused. All passwords and security supplied to the advertiser by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd in relation to the use of the posting of material via the media owner's online administration tool will be the responsibility of the advertiser. The advertiser indemnifies KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd against any damages as a result of misuse of these privileges by either the advertiser or any third party given password privileges by the advertiser.
6. KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd reserves the right to change passwords intermittently to ensure the overall and ongoing security of its websites within the public domain.
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13. KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd accepts no responsibility for any errors or omissions made on their websites by the advertiser.
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16. A minimum of one month's notice must be given in writing for any cancellation of the signed annual advertiser's agreement. Upon cancellation, all discounts from KOS Media's standard effective media advertising rate card (July 2007-June 2008) will be recalculated and adjusted accordingly in line with KOS Media's standard media rate card (effective July 2007-June 2008) and will reflect the revised length of commitment denoted by the advertiser's written cancellation. Any surcharges, refunds or costs in relation to the production of the advertiser's TV commercial for the commitment set out within the advertiser's agreement will be met in full by the advertiser as per KOS Media's standard media advertising rate card (July 2007-June 2008). Discounts will be reapplied and any refunds or surcharges will be paid by either party within 30 days of the advertiser's written cancellation. Any other advertising placed must give a minimum of seven days' written notice and any discounts given for series bookings will be forfeited by the advertiser upon cancellation.
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18. Each advertiser accepts that their ranking and position within KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd's search engine will be equal to those within their category (Platinum, Gold, Silver, Bronze, etc) other than they will be ranked based on the search engine criteria of optimisation within their level (Platinum, Gold, Silver or Bronze).
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20. a. All credit accounts due for payment shall be notified to the Advertiser by the 30th day following the date of the invoice, time to be of the essence. All sums due to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd or RBS Factoring shall be paid in full, and the Advertiser shall have no right of set off in any circumstances.

    b. In the event that payment is not received by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd or RBS Factoring by the due date, the media owner shall be entitled to suspend all further advertising until payment is received and/or repudiate the contract.

    c. In the event that payment is not received by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd by the due date, the media owner reserves the right to charge interest on all overdue balances calculated on a daily basis at the rate of two per cent above the minimum lending rate of National Westminster Bank Plc from time to time in force.

    d. Not withstanding anything in these terms and conditions or implied to the contrary, in the event of the Advertiser ceasing to use the services of KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd (for whatever reason), the whole amount of monies due from the Advertiser to the date of cessation shall fall due for immediate payment.

    e. The Advertiser will be liable for all costs incurred by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd in the recovery of debts not paid by the due date.

    f. Payment may be made by cheque, credit transfer, direct debit, cash and any major credit card.
21. Any discount which KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd may have agreed with the Advertiser shall be forfeited in the event of failure by the Advertiser to complete the contract or to meet the above credit terms.
22. Advertising Agency commission will be allowed to those advertisers recognised by the Newspaper Society, but shall not exceed ten per cent and will be subject to the terms of that recognition. This commission will not be allowed if the Advertising Agency fails to meet the terms.
23. All private advertisement and certain categories as laid down by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must be prepaid.
24. The Advertiser agrees to indemnify KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd in respect of all costs, damages or other charges falling upon the media owners or any of the companies within the KOS Media Group as the result of legal action or threatened legal action or threatened legal arising from the publication of any advertisement or advertising promotion.
25. An order for an advertisement shall amount to acceptance of these terms and conditions, and any condition placed on an order by an Advertiser shall be null and void in so far as it conflicts with them.
26. Copyright in advertisements produced wholly or partially by the media owners belong to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd. Advertisers may not reproduce such advertisements without the media owner's consent.

All terms and conditions stated above are in place to protect the advertiser, the media owner and the communities they serve within the public domain as well as the beneficial rights of individuals and organisations. KOS Media will endeavour to always act reasonably in applying its terms and conditions.

Effective from March 2008

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Email: info@kosmedia.co.uk

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Foster carers wanted

The Caldecott Foundation, which cares for vulnerable children who have experienced extreme trauma and disruption, seeks dedicated and highly motivated foster carers. Comprehensive training and support given, plus excellent rates of pay.
Contact Jamie Bromfield or Erica Eversfield on 01303 815648 or email fostering@caldecottfoundation.co.uk

The Caldecott Foundation, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SP.

To advertise in this section
01303 817040

the University of Greenwich at Medway

PART TIME SYSTEMS DEVELOPER

(FIXED TERM)

Ref: 00965/K3

Working as part of a multi-disciplined friendly team, the Natural Resources Institute (NRI) wishes to recruit a highly motivated individual to provide IT support.

You will support the Systems Development Manager in the development and maintenance of NRI's Business and Marketing Systems, including assisting in related development and training. Experienced in SQL database development, you will develop new modules and enhance the existing systems using UNIX scripts, perl, PHP and MySQL. You will perform basic operations procedures to ensure the effective and secure operation of NRI's UNIX servers.

With experience of modern web design, you will help to develop and maintain NRI's website to professional standards and provide support to staff in the development of discrete project-related websites.

This post is fixed term for one year and the hours of work are 17.5 per week.

Salary pro-rata to £23,002 – £27,486 per annum

We aim to be an equal opportunities employer and welcome applications from all sections of the community.

To obtain further particulars and an application form visit our website www.gre.ac.uk, email: jobs@gre.ac.uk or write to the Personnel Office, University of Greenwich, Avery Hill Road, London, SE9 2UG quoting the job reference. Applications should be returned by 5:00 pm on 23 May 2008.

the UNIVERSITY of GREENWICH

Kent County Council

Early Years Foundation Stage Consultant

Starting salary £29,920, with progression through contribution related pay to £35,370 per annum

1 x East Kent, 1 x Mid Kent and 1 x West Kent

We wish to appoint three Foundation Stage Consultants to join our unit which focuses on enhancing the quality of care, learning and play in the early years across Kent.

Working as part of an area team, the post holders will be responsible for:-

- Providing guidance to pre-school early years and child care providers and settings in supporting their own processes of self review to raise standards
- Providing training that meets the needs of settings and practitioners and also meets the targets for the local authority in respect of the Kent Early Years Improvement Plan and national requirements
- Challenging and supporting settings in achieving improved OFSTED outcomes and accreditation through the Kent Quality Standards Scheme
- Developing and maintaining an area of specialism within the team to contribute to the improvement of provision and standards in the area/region
- Contributing to the development of consistency of entitlement across the county

We offer excellent professional development opportunities and travel costs will be met.

The ability to travel countywide is essential to the post.

These posts are subject to an Enhanced Disclosure Application to the Criminal Records Bureau.

For an informal discussion, please contact Colleen Marin, Senior Adviser, EYCC on 01233 898722.

To apply, visit www.kent.gov.uk/jobs alternatively, please email recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk or call 0845 8247 904. Please quote reference: CFE/08/0127.

Closing date: Midday 30th May 2008.

Interviews for these positions will take place on 19th June 2008.

A great place to work.
Our services aren't the same, so neither are our people.

ASK

www.kent.gov.uk/jobs

14-19 Strategic Director

WKLF

Salary Range L15 – L19
(£50,547 - £55,766)
Start date: negotiable but no later than September 2008

This is a full-time position, initially for a 2-year contract. It presents an exciting opportunity for a secondment or a positive career move into the leadership context of the future. Applications from self-employed consultants are also welcomed.

Are you

- ambitious, innovative, with the energy and vision to deliver the entitlement to a relevant and engaging curriculum to the full range of our 14-19 learners across West Kent?
- motivational, with the personal belief and enthusiasm to take key people forward with you?

Our Offer:

- to work with an extensive network of successful and forward-thinking colleagues
- to be at the forefront of educational developments in learning, curriculum and collaboration
- the freedom and opportunity to work independently at a strategic level
- the support of county-wide and local 14-19 co-ordinators and teams.

The West Kent Learning Federation is a network of learning providers consisting of two FE colleges, seventeen secondary schools and two special schools. The Federation has ambitious plans for 14-19 curriculum development and collaboration.

For further information and an application pack please contact the PA to the Chair of WKLF, Mrs Jenny Rutherford on 01732 353544 ext 240 or by e-mail at: jrutherford@hughchristie.kent.sch.uk

Closing date for applications – Tuesday 27th May

Kent County Council

Functional Skills Manager

Starting salary £26,159, with progression through contribution related pay to £29,920 per annum

Countywide - base nearest to home

KEY Training Services deliver an exciting range of innovative training programmes to people aged 14-upwards. As one of the largest work-based training providers in Kent, we offer a wide range of Vocational and Pre-vocational programmes and qualifications supported by a Functional Skills team, from 5 Centres countywide.

A new opportunity has arisen for a Manager to support KEY's Skills for Life Strategy and its operational delivery through the performance management of the Functional Skills Team.

You must demonstrate that you have the skills to manage human and physical resources, curriculum development and also have a good understanding of work-based learning and the government's Skills for Life Strategies.

You need to be Level 4 qualified (or equivalent) in Literacy and/or Numeracy and will have the responsibility for Internal Verification of Key Skills qualifications. **Ref: CD/08/0119**

Closing date: Midday, 30 May 2008.

Education Welfare Officer - Cluster Based Service

Starting salary £20,061, with progression through contribution related pay to £22,825 pro rata

0.8 FTE term time only

Deal and Sandwich Cluster, East Kent - currently based in White Cliffs Business Park, Whitfield

Education Welfare Officers work with schools, families and pupils to promote regular school attendance. The work is challenging and requires the ability to work independently as well as being a good team member. You will receive in service training, regular supervision, and support in your work with schools, pupils, their families and other agencies.

You will need the ability to travel as visiting schools and homes etc is essential to the work. Essential car user allowance is payable.
Ref: CFE/08/0201

Closing date: Midday, 2 June 2008.

These posts are subject to a Disclosure Application to the Criminal Records Bureau.

To apply, visit www.kent.gov.uk/jobs Alternatively, please email recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk or call 0845 8247 904. Please quote the relevant reference number.

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Capita Education Resourcing is the leading provider of educational staff throughout the UK.

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CAPITA EDUCATION RESOURCING (Agy)

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Ashford
Kent TN24 9AL
Tel: 01233 634171
Fax: 01233 628326
Email:
admin@towers.kent.sch.uk

Two Part–Time Site Attendants Working On A Shift Pattern

We are looking to appoint two part time Site Attendants to help with the day to day running of the school and weekend and evening lettings

Pay will be on the Kent Scheme Band 3 (£13,959–£15,826, pro-rata)
The successful candidates will be subject to a full police check

Applications are by CV and covering letter and can be by fax, by email or by post. Please mark for the attention of Mrs K Weeden, detailing your experience, skills, qualities and ambitions. Closing date is Wednesday, 28th May 2008

JobsforKent.co.uk The smart way to find a job in the County

Discover your Potential

Mid-Kent College is one of the largest providers of Further Education in Kent with over 12,000 students and 850 staff.

Currently located at four sites in Maidstone, Chatham and Rochester, this thriving college will open its new £76m campus to students in Medway in September 2009.

We are looking for individuals who will encourage learning for life and enhance our existing teams in the following areas:

Programme Area Leader - Hair Design Ref: EL1
Lecturer Grade C: £29,267 to £32,898

We are seeking to recruit an exceptional candidate to provide support to the Head of School on all staffing, student curriculum and quality issues. The post holder will deliver Hair Design programmes to full and part-time students and carry-out regular observations of staff for the purpose of appraisal and quality improvement. The candidate must have a recognised teaching qualification and relevant vocational/academic subject qualification.

Lecturer in Hair Design Ref: EL2
Lecturer Grade B: £25,092 to £28,719

We are seeking to appoint enthusiastic professional to teach, assess and participate in the development of Hair Design programmes. The successful candidate will develop and deliver high quality training and assessment procedures to full and part-time students. The applicant must have a relevant vocational/academic qualification and should hold or be willing to work towards a teaching qualification. Recent industry experience would be advantageous.

Acting Programme Area Leader - Plumbing Ref: EL3
Lecturer Grade C: £29,267 to £32,898

An opportunity has arisen within the Construction & Engineering School for a Lecturer to contribute to the development, management and teaching of Plumbing, Heating and Gas programmes at Mid Kent College, based our Oakwood Park Campus in Maidstone.

The ideal candidate will have a current knowledge and be able to demonstrate practical experience of the Building Services Industry. In addition, they will have sufficient teaching experience and be educated to Level 3 or the equivalent in the relevant field. The candidate must have a recognised teaching qualification; An Advanced Craft Certificate, including Mandatory Awards in Water & Gas and either a D32/34 or A & V Awards.

Lecturer Motor Vehicle Ref: EL4
Lecturer Grade: B/C (depending on qualifications & experience)
Salary: Circa £25,000 to £32,000

Due to expansion of our highly successful Automotive provision we are looking to recruit an experienced and highly motivated Lecturer able to teach to all levels (currently Foundation to Level 3) of a range of Mechanical qualifications within our Motor Vehicle department.

Ideally (but not essentially) with some Heavy Vehicle experience, applicants must be able to work flexibly, with a strong team ethic and expect to deliver engaging lessons (both practical and theory) to the highest standard. The department benefits from strong links with Buckmore Park karting circuit (where we run a National Diploma in Motorsport) and has a history of high Success rates across its full-time, part-time and work-based-learning provision.

Lecturer in Construction Ref: EL5
Lecturer Grade C: £29,267 to £32,898

The primary role of the successful candidate will be to teach on and participate in the development of construction and related programmes with a particular focus upon Higher/Advanced programmes and Quantity Surveying pathways. The candidate should have the ability to teach across a broad range of subjects, including Measurement, Estimating and Technology. The applicant should hold or be willing to work towards a relevant teaching qualification.

Lecturer in Biology – Fixed-Term Ref: EL6
Maternity Cover (18.5 hours per week)
Lecturer Grade B: £25,092 to £28,719 pro-rata

We are looking for a Lecturer in Biology to teach on and participate in the development of Biology programmes. The successful candidate will deliver a range of courses to students and must hold a relevant degree in Biology.

Lecturer in Computing & IT Ref: EL7
(22 hours per week)
Lecturer Grade C: £29,267 to £32,898 pro-rata

We are looking to appoint a Lecturer to undertake teaching and tutorial/pastoral functions on the Higher Education programmes – Foundation Degree, HND and HNC. These programmes are delivered at Chatham Maritime in partnership with the University of Kent.

You will work as part of a team making a contribution to relevant programmes of study, including developing courses for revalidation or in response to market need along with preparation, maintenance and sharing of teaching materials. Up-to-date and sound working knowledge of programming, databases, operating systems, applications development, internet design and implementation is required.

All posts are full-time (37 hours per week) unless otherwise stated. The benefits of joining Mid-Kent College include generous annual leave, final salary pension scheme, flexible working opportunities and on-site gym.

The College selection process will reflect our commitment to safeguarding young people and vulnerable adults.

Any offer of employment is subject to an Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure and List 99 clearance.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please call the Personnel department on 01634 845402 (24 hour answer machine) or e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk quoting the appropriate job title and reference number.

Closing date: Friday, 30 May 2008

Mid-Kent College is committed to Equal Opportunities and encourages applications from all sections of the community and welcomes applications from under represented groups including black, minority ethnic and disabled people.

Discover your Potential

Mid-Kent College is one of the largest providers of Further Education in Kent with ambitious plans to build on its excellent reputation.

We are looking for individuals who will encourage learning for life and enhance our existing teams in the following areas:

Personal Tutor Ref: S01
(Full-time, Part-time & Maternity Cover)
Grade E: £19,736 - £25,441 pro-rata if part-time

We currently have a number of opportunities for full-time and part-time Personal Tutors, including maternity cover. As a Personal Tutor you will plan and deliver a full range of group tutorials to learners with a wide range of abilities. You will be able to work with minimum supervision and have experience of working in a coaching, mentoring or teaching capacity and be willing to undertake an appropriate teaching qualification. When applying, please state clearly your preferred role.

Training & Development Co-ordinator Ref: S02
Support Grade E: £19,736 to £25,441

You will be responsible for developing, implementing and maintaining the College's training and development practices and procedures. The successful candidate will have strong analytical, communication and report writing skills.

PA to Vice Principal - Curriculum Ref: S03
Support Grade D: £17,861 to £22,907

An opportunity has arisen to support the Vice Principal of Curriculum in the management of the Divisions through the provision of a comprehensive and efficient secretarial/PA service. Excellent typing and organisational skills are essential. The candidate will be able to demonstrate up-to-date knowledge of MS Office applications and have experience of minute taking and diary management.

Experienced Classroom Facilitators Ref: S04
Support Grade B: £17,200 pro rata (fixed point)

As a Classroom Facilitator you will support our mainstream learners with learning difficulties/disabilities on their chosen courses. We are looking to recruit experienced Facilitators to work part-time within our Additional Learning Support team and offer flexible term time hours across our College campuses.

Customer Relationship Management Administrator Ref: S05
Support Grade A: £11,599 to £16,199

We are seeking to recruit an administrator to provide a full administrative service for the Business Development Unit. You will be responsible for producing reports and conducting telemarketing activity. The applicant will be able to demonstrate a good understanding of MS Office applications.

Administration Assistant in Hair & Holistic Therapy Ref: S06
Support Grade A: £11,599 to £16,199

The candidate will be able to demonstrate recent, all round experience and knowledge of administration procedures and have excellent organisational and IT skills. Due to the nature of the role the successful candidate will be required to work independently and relevant secretarial qualifications would be advantageous.

All posts are full-time (37 hours per week) unless otherwise stated. The benefits of joining Mid-Kent College include generous annual leave, final salary pension scheme, flexible working opportunities and on-site gym.

The College selection process will reflect our commitment to safeguarding young people and vulnerable adults. Any offer of employment is subject to an Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure and List 99 clearance.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please call the Personnel department on 01634 845402 (24 hour answer machine) or e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk quoting the appropriate job title and reference number.

Closing date: Friday, 30 May 2008

Mid-Kent College is committed to Equal Opportunities and encourages applications from all sections of the community and welcomes applications from under represented groups including black, minority ethnic and disabled people.

Sevenoaks District Council

Sevenoaks District Council is classed as an 'Excellent Council' according to the Audit Commission. The Council is also a Times newspaper 'Best Council to work for' awards winner, the Local Government Chronicle 'Finance award' winner and has 'Investors in People' status.

Corporate Resources Department

IT Developer

£19,998 p.a. - £26,602 p.a. rising to
£28129 p.a. with exceptional performance (pay award pending)
Plus a final salary contributory pension scheme

Do you want to join us on our journey to continued excellence?
Are you craving something more challenging?
Something more rewarding?

Well, now you can finally stop searching the depths of the appointments sections because here's an opportunity to assist a leading Local Authority in its drive to further integrate and develop IT Systems to the benefit of the public it serves.

If you possess proven skills and experience with relational databases, reporting tools, web and scripting languages and have the vision to produce innovative solutions to complex requirements, look no further.

Sevenoaks District Council is rated as excellent and is one of only two District Councils in the country to achieve a Level 4 in both Use of Resources and VFM. In terms of meeting our service delivery objectives, Information Technology underpins every aspect of our activities here at Sevenoaks – and our commitment to ensuring optimum efficiency, effectiveness and customer satisfaction has never been greater.

For you, that means being part of a team that, rather than just being an add-on service and enabler, is a real driving force for change and has the influence and profile to match.

In recent years IT has been a key contributor in ensuring the Council is delivering its priorities in the most efficient and effective manner and the pressure is for this contribution to grow yet further.

If you thrive under pressure and want to operate in a performance-led environment where you can have a real and lasting impact – if you have the ideas and skills to transform systems – this is the role to get your career going in the right direction.

Starting salary will be dependent upon skills and experience.

For an informal discussion about this post, please contact Jim Carrington-West, Head of IT and Facilities Management on 01732 227286.

Our staff benefits package includes, a final salary contributory pension scheme, flexible annual leave and working arrangements, free membership of Sencio's Leisure Centres in the District, a childcare vouchers scheme, free car parking at place of work and excellent training and development opportunities.

To apply on-line please visit our website @ www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/jobs. You may also contact the Human Resources team for an information pack and application form by calling the recruitment voicemail on 01732 227102 (24 hours) or by e-mailing recruitment@sevenoaks.gov.uk quoting the reference CO.507

Closing date: Friday 6th June 2008
Interview date: Monday 16th & Tuesday 17th June 2008

Sevenoaks District Council is committed to being an Equal Opportunities Employer

www.sevenoaks.gov.uk

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

ARCHERS COURT MATHS & COMPUTING COLLEGE

Whitfield, Dover, Kent. CT16 2EG
Tele: 01304 820126 Fax: 01304 821915
e-mail: wbowditch@archerscourt.fsnet.co.uk
Web site: www.archers-court.kent.sch.uk

Required for September 2008:

Instrumental Instructors (Music)

to support the Music Department in the delivery of tuition in the following areas:

• Drum Kit/Percussion • Piano • Guitar
• Woodwind (Flute, saxophone, clarinet) • Brass (trumpet/cornet and/or trombone)

Applications are welcome from graduates of Music or Music Education, and from candidates who hold other professional qualifications in music.

An Application pack and further details are available from the Head Teachers PA (Mrs Bowditch)

Closing date for applications: 10am on Friday 13th June 2008

Kent Police Authority

Ensuring the best possible policing service across Kent and Medway

£8,000 – part time from October 2008

Kent Police Authority is an independent body that oversees Kent Police. We're looking for people from across Kent and Medway to join as Independent Members. You will play a key role in holding Kent Police to account on behalf of the public.

- You will be expected to attend all Authority meetings and challenge and question senior Kent Police officers and staff. You will attend appropriate designated committees and participate in public consultation on local policing issues.
- You will be expected to keep abreast of developments in both local and national policing. You will be required to present a broad range of local communities and constructively challenge accepted views.
- Good communication skills are essential as some public speaking will be required and you will be representing the Authority in discussions with interested parties. You should be able to demonstrate relevant skills, experience and knowledge, for example in management, business, finance, strategic IT and community or race-relations.

A commitment of up to two days per week is required, for which an allowance and expenses are payable. This post will last until March 2013. You need to be over 18, live or work within Kent and Medway (and have done so for at least a year prior to appointment) and not be otherwise disqualified.

Kent Police Authority welcomes applications from all eligible people from all backgrounds.

For more detailed information and an application pack call 01622 677 055 or email memberappointments@kent.pnn.police.uk Closing date is 9 June 2008.

THE SPENCER WING

The Spencer Wing is a 22 bed Private Patients Hospital situated on the QEQM Hospital site. The continuing growth of our business has resulted in vacancies for the following staff:

Staff Nurses – (Full-time days)
Pre-assessment Staff Nurse – (Full-time days)
Weekend/Evening Physiotherapist – (Part-time)

We also have vacancies within our Nursing and Physiotherapy Flexi Bank

To discuss these opportunities or to arrange an informal visit, please contact **Lynn Orrin, Matron on 01843 234555**

For job description and application form please contact:
Mandy Oliver, East Kent Medical Services Ltd, The Spencer Wing, QEQM Hospital, Ramsgate Road, Margate, Kent CT9 4BG

Telephone: 01843 234556 Fax: 01843 296333 E-mail: mandyo@thespencerwing.com

The Spencer Wing is an equal opportunity employer
This positions is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure check

Closing Date for Applications 6th June 2008

Ashford Christ Church

A Church of England Specialist Maths and Computing College
Headteacher: Catherine Barber
Millbank Road, Kingsnorth, Ashford, Kent TN23 3HG

Awarded Beacon Status for Mathematics and Maths & Computing Specialist Schools Status

Christ Church is a successful Church of England High School in the market town of Ashford, Kent. Headteacher, Catherine Barber, has been appointed to lead the school in its next phase of progress and innovation. We seek to recruit innovative practitioners who will inspire and motivate our students to reach their full potential. Christ Church is at the heart of its community and proud of its Christian ethos. It is fully inclusive and offers excellent pastoral care to students within a welcoming environment.

Headteacher and Board of Governors are seeking to recruit a passionate, hardworking and dedicated

TEACHER OF ENGLISH

(From September 2008)

We have an excellent opportunity for a full-time Teacher of English in a successful and dynamic department and school. Ashford Christ Church an Investor in People is ideally placed to support a newly qualified teacher through their NQT year or help an experienced specialist to reach their professional and personal development aims. As the recent Investor in People post recognition report stated:

'People provided lots of examples of good management practice and described how they felt well motivated and supported with a sound understanding of what they were expected to achieve, and how they got feedback about how they were performing; the common factor in all these examples being the skill, ability and commitment displayed by the manager concerned.'

Appointment is subject to Enhanced CRB check.

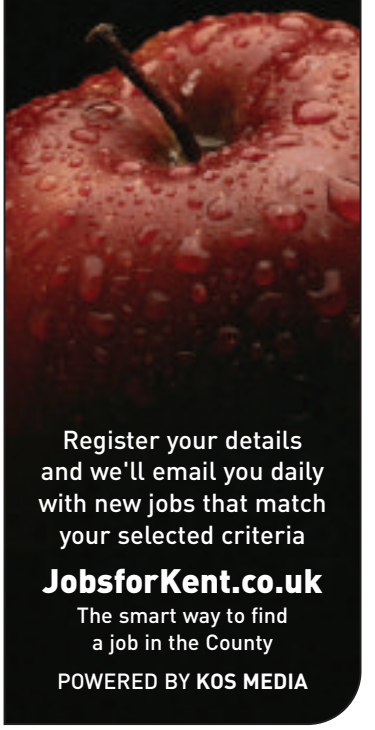
Interview dates: Immediate after receipt of Application Form.

Teaching Application Form obtainable by visiting our website: www.ashfordchristchurch.com School info/Vacancies

For further information and an application pack please contact HR Officer Samantha Sullivan at samanthasullivan@ashfordchristchurch.com Telephone: 01233 623465/652613 or Fax: 01233 636861

Ashford Christ Church is an Equal Opportunities employer

Find teaching jobs online



Register your details and we'll email you daily with new jobs that match your selected criteria

JobsforKent.co.uk
The smart way to find a job in the County
POWERED BY KOS MEDIA

PUBLIC NOTICES

APPLICATION TO VARY A PREMISES LICENCE

Notice is hereby given that we Kings Hill Parish Council, have applied to Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council for variation of a premises licence in respect of the premises known as Kings Hill Community Centre and situated at 70 Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent ME19 4LG in respect of the following licensable activities: -
* Provision of Regulated Entertainment
* Provision of Late Night Refreshment
The application can be viewed at the offices of Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council, Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent. ME19 4LZ during normal office hours. www.tmbc.gov.uk
Any representations from interested parties or responsibly authorities must be made in writing to the above local authority, clearly stating the grounds upon which representation is made relevant to the Licensing Act by 11th June.
It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application and the maximum fine, level 5 on the standard scale, is a maximum of £5,000 for which a person is liable on summary conviction for the offence.
Stephen Thomas LAW
8 Grassmere, Leybourne, West Malling, Kent ME19 5QP
Authorised Agents on and behalf of the applicant.

PUBLIC MEETING
SANDWICH NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM
22ND MAY 2008, 6.30PM
THE PHOENIX CENTRE, SANDWICH

Do you live or work in the Sandwich area? Are you interested in finding out more about how climate change will affect your community and what you can do?
If so, please join Kent County Councillors, Dover District Councillors and Town and Parish Councillors of the Sandwich area at the forthcoming public Sandwich Neighbourhood Forum on the 22nd May. Come and hear what action KCC and DDC are taking to tackle climate change to both reduce carbon emissions and preparing to adapt to change. Learn what action you can take personally, what communities in Kent are already doing to become low carbon, and how you can get involved.
You will then be given the opportunity to ask questions, share your own experience and ideas, and, if so inclined, begin to develop projects for your local community. Rosie Rechter, who has recently set up the "Deal With It" campaign in Deal, will be available to offer advice on how she successfully got the campaign off the ground. You can also take a tour of the Phoenix Centre to see how an environmentally friendly building looks, feels and works in practice, a community project that has proved to be extremely popular with all who use it.
For further information about the meeting please contact Louise Bolton, Community Liaison Manager on 01622 221947.

CHITTINGHURST DEVELOPMENTS LIMITED
Company No. 03960556

Notice is hereby given that I, A J Clark of Carter Clark, Meridian House 62 Station Road North Chingford London E4 7BA was appointed Liquidator of the Company on 08/05/2008 by the Members and Creditors.
Dated 08/05/2008
A J CLARK, Liquidator *T227161*

The Insolvency Act 1986
SERVICE FIRST INTERNATIONAL LIMITED
(Company Number 01208896)

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Section 95 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above-named Company will be held at MWB Business Exchange, Exchange House, 494 Midsummer Boulevard, Milton Keynes, MK9 2EA, on 23 May 2008, at 10.30 am when a statement as to the affairs of the company will be laid before the meeting. The meeting is being convened as the liquidator(s) are of the opinion that the company will be unable to pay its debts in full (together with interest at the official rate) within the period stated in the declaration under Section 89 of the Insolvency Act 1986. A creditor entitled to attend and vote is entitled to appoint a proxy to attend and vote instead of him. A proxy need not be a member or creditor of the company. Proxies to be used at the meeting must be completed, signed and lodged at Begbies Traynor (South) LLP, Calverton House, Tilers Road, Milton Keynes MK11 3LL, not later than 12 noon on the business day preceding the meeting.
Further take notice that a duty is imposed on the liquidators by the Insolvency Act 1986 during the period before the day on which the meeting is to be held to furnish creditors free of charge with such information concerning the affairs of the company as they may reasonably require.
Dated: 13 May 2008
T J E Dolder, Joint Liquidator

PUBLIC NOTICE

EDF ENERGY NETWORKS (SPN) PLC
SECTION 37 OF THE ELECTRICITY ACT 1989
REGULATION 5 OF THE ELECTRICITY (APPLICATIONS FOR CONSENTS) REGULATIONS 1990

NOTICE OF AN APPLICATION FOR CONSENT TO REFURBISH THE EXISTING 132KV OVERHEAD TRANSMISSION LINE TOWER (ROUTE REFERENCE PT) IN THE AREA OF WORMSHILL, HOLLINGBOURNE, MAIDSTONE, KENT
(TOWERS PT34 – PT46B, NGR TQ869565– TQ869563)

NOTICE OF AN APPLICATION FOR CONSENT TO REFURBISH THE EXISTING 132KV OVERHEAD TRANSMISSION LINE (ROUTE REFERENCE PT) IN THE AREA OF WORMSHILL, HOLLINGBOURNE, MAIDSTONE, KENT
(NGR TQ869565– TQ869563).

IN PURSUANCE OF THE ABOVE REGULATIONS, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that EDF Energy Networks (SPN) Plc, Registered Office 40 Grosvenor Place, Victoria, London SW1X 7EN has submitted to the Secretary of State at the Department for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform an application for her consent under Section 37 of the Electricity Act 1989 and deemed planning permission pursuant to Section 90(2) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to install and keep installed a 132kV (132,000 volts) lattice steel pylon overhead line.

The proposed refurbishment to this existing overhead line is required to maintain the existing supply of 132kV to Maidstone Grid Substation.

A full set of the application documentation, including a location plan have been deposited for public inspection at the following location:-

Maidstone Borough Council, 13 Tonbridge Road, Maidstone, Kent ME16 8HG

Planning Applications, Kent County Council, 1st Floor , Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XQ

Lenham Library, 11 The Square, Lenham, Maidstone, Kent ME17 2PQ

The application documentation will be available for inspection at the above locations until 22nd June 2008, without payment of any fee, during the normal business hours of the offices at these locations.

Any objections and/or representations in respect of the application must be made in writing and addressed to The Secretary of State, Department for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform, Onshore Electricity Development Consents, V2123, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET on or before 22nd June 2008 and should state the grounds on which they are made, and is asked to send a copy to me.

Any such objections or representations will be copied to the relevant planning authority and the applicant unless the person making them requests in writing that they should not be so copied. If there is such a request then the relevant planning authority and the applicant will only be informed that an objection has been made but no details will be forwarded to them.

Dated 17th May 2008.
MATTHEW BELL
EDF Energy
c/o Turner & Partners
Templar House
1 Sandbeck Court
Sandbeck Way
Wetherby
LS22 7BA

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004
APPROVED PREMISES FOR CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS

An application has been made to Kent County Council to grant a renewal of an approval for the following premises to act as a venue for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-
Name of Premises: Holiday Inn Maidstone
London Road, Wrotham Heath
Applicant: Mr Kevin Pugh
The application and plan of the premises may be inspected at the address below between the hours of 9am and 5pm. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the renewal of the grant of approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.
Martin Alford, Head of Registration
Regulatory Services, First Floor, Invicta House
County Hall, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004
APPROVED PREMISES FOR CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS

An application has been made to Kent County Council to grant a renewal of an approval for the following premises to act as a venue for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-
Name of Premises: Abbots Barton,
36 New Dover Road, Canterbury
Applicant: Mr Michael Turner
The application and plan of the premises may be inspected at the address below between the hours of 9am and 5pm. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the renewal of the grant of approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.
Martin Alford, Head of Registration
Regulatory Services, First Floor, Invicta House
County Hall, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX

To advertise in this section 01303 817040

Highways - Borough of Gravesham

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(KENT THAMESIDE, FASTRACK, A2260 SPRINGHEAD ROAD, NORTHFLEET) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) ORDER 2008 ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

NOTICE is hereby given that Kent County Council has made an Order under Sections 1 and 2 and 124 of and part IV of Schedule 9 to the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the effect of which prohibits the driving of vehicles along the 11.0 metre length of road between the northern end of the Un-named Access Road to "The Old Rectory" and the A2260 Springhead Road roundabout junction.

A copy of the Order which shall come into operation on Monday 26th May 2008, an explanatory statement and a map showing the extents of the scheme may be inspected during normal office hours at the West Kent Divisional Office, Joynes House, New Road, Gravesend, Kent, DA11 0AT and the Gravesham Borough Council Offices, Civic Centre, Windmill Street, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 1AU.

Anyone may, by application to the High Court within 6 weeks of the date of publication of this Notice, challenge the validity of the Orders or of any provision contained in them on the grounds that it is not within the powers conferred by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, or of any instrument made there under, or that there has been a failure to comply with any statutory requirement in relation to the Order.

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
LOWER HIGHAM ROAD, SHORNE (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are being carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Lower Higham Road, Shorne between Green Farm Lane and Church Lane.

The Order will become effective on 19th May 2008, for a period of 9 days, or, until completion of the planned works. These closures will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: Lower Higham Road, A226 Rochester Road/Gravesend Road, Forge Lane, School Lane, Chalk Road, Lower Road.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate Duct laying works for BT.

Highways - Borough of Maidstone

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(A249 AND OTHER ROADS AT DETLING) (TRAFFIC SPEED, TRAFFIC REGULATION AND ONE WAY ORDER) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because of the likelihood of danger to the public using a road the Kent County Council has made an Order restricting traffic speed, the regulation of traffic and the use by traffic as described in Schedule 1 and 2 hereto.

The order shall come into operation at times when required on 24th/25th/26th/ May and 11th/12th/13th July 2008.

SCHEDULE 1
(The Speed limits and Traffic Regulations)

1. Traffic in excess of 30 mph shall be prohibited as follows:-

   (i) On Sittingbourne Road, Detling between its junction with the M20 roundabout (Junction 7) and the existing permanent 30 mph speed restriction 465 metres south west from its junction with Pilgrims Way, in both directions.

   (ii) On Detling Hill, Sittingbourne Road, Thurnham between Binbury Lane and the existing permanent 30 mph speed restriction 407 metres north east of its junction with Scragged Oak Road, in both directions.

2. No person shall, except upon the direction of a Police Officer or Civilian Enforcement Officer in uniform, cause or permit a vehicle to :-

   (i) Carry out a right hand turn from A249 southbound into Scragged Oak Road.

   (ii) Carry out a right hand turn from Scragged Oak Road into the A249 southbound.

   (iii) Carry out a right hand turn from A249 northbound into South Green Lane.

   (iv) Carry out a right hand turn or "U" turn on the A249 northbound at its junction with Rumstead Lane.

3. The alternative routes for traffic affected by 2(i), 2(ii), 2(iii), 2(iv) above are either

   (i) via the roundabout at junction 5 of the M2 motorway

   (ii) via the roundabout at junction 7 of the M20 motorway

SCHEDULE 2
(One Way Order)

No person shall, except upon the direction of a Police Officer or Civilian Enforcement Officer in uniform, cause or permit a vehicle to proceed in the length of road specified otherwise than in the direction specified in Column 1 of Schedule 2 to this Order. The alternative route for the route described in Column 1 is described in Column 2 of that Schedule.

The affected route (Column 1)	The alternative route (Column 2)
Scragged Oak Road One way from the junction with Hermitage Lane towards the junction with Broader Lane.	Broader Lane and Hermitage Lane

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROADS IN MAIDSTONE) (ROAD CLOSURE)TEMPORARY ORDER 2008

NOTICE is hereby given that to allow highway maintenance works to take place the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by traffic on the routes described in column 1 of the Schedule hereto on or after 21st May 2008 for an estimated period of one week or for a period not exceeding 18 months.

The alternative for each route described in column 1 of the Schedule hereto is described in column 2 of that Schedule.

THE SCHEDULE

Berwyn Grove, Maidstone for its entire length.	Norrington Road, Pear Tree Lane and Paynes lane.
Ivens Way, Harrietsham for its entire length.	None available.
Quested Way, Harrietsham for its entire length.	West Street and Hook Lane.
Broadoak Avenue, Maidstone for its entire length.	None available.
Hyde Road, Maidstone from Grace Avenue to Buckland Lane.	Grace Avenue and London Road.
Buckland Lane, Maidstone from Hyde Road to London Road.	Grace Avenue and London Road.
Lismore Close, Maidstone for its entire length.	None available.
Sutton Road, Maidstone (service road) from its junction with Sutton Road to its junction with Northumberland Road.	Sutton Road and Northumberland Road.
Shirley Way, Bearsted for its entire length.	Spot Lane, Ashford Road and Cavendish Way.
York Road, Maidstone for its entire length.	None available.
Vale Road, Loose for its entire length.	None available.
Valley Drive Loose for its entire length.	None available.
Penfold Way, Loose for its entire length.	None available.
Downs Close, Maidstone for its entire length.	None available.
Downs View Road, Maidstone for its entire length.	None available.
Croft Gardens, Lenham for its entire length.	None available.
Cedar Drive, Barming for its entire length.	None available.
Mill Lane, Hollingbourne for its entire length.	None available.
Skye Close, Maidstone for its entire length.	None available.
Stuart Close, Maidstone for its entire length.	None available.
Prospect Place, Maidstone for its entire length.	None available.
Bower Lane, Maidstone from Florence Road to its southern end.	Tonbridge Road, St Michaels Road and Upper Fant Road.
Lower Fant Road from its junction with Bower Lane to its junction with Roseholme.	None available.

Advance road works information boards will be placed prior to works commencing on site, giving details as to when works are scheduled to commence and expected duration.

Order will only be effective when the appropriate signs are displayed.

Highways - District of Sevenoaks

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
SEVENOAKS RESURFACING (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 (3) THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on various roads as noted in schedule 1.

The Order will become effective on 2nd June 2008, will be in operation and will remain valid for a maximum period of eighteen months and will be brought into effect when the appropriate signs are erected on site.

The alternative routes for the routes described will be written in schedule 1.

The purpose of the closures is to facilitate carriageway resurfacing works by Kent Highway Services.

For further information please contact Kent Highway Services on 08458 247 800.

SCHEDULE 1.

Road Name	Location	Duration	Alternative Route
Hale Oak Road, Chiddingstone	Whole Length	10 days	Bowzell Road, Bayley's Hill, B2027 Penshurst Road
The Green, Leigh	Whole Length	5 days	Cul de sac location – no alternative route
Beechmont Road, Sevenoaks	Whole Length	5 Days	Gracious Lane, Weald Road
Granville Avenue, Sevenoaks	Whole Length	10 days	A224 London Road, Tubs Hill

Highways - District of Shepway

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(CHERITON ROAD, FOLKESTONE) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because sewer connection works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Cheriton Road, Folkestone from its junction with Brockman Road to its junction with Shorncliffe Road on 19 May 2008 for an estimated period of 3 weeks or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Cheriton Road, Middleburgh Square, Cheriton Gardens, Shorncliffe Road, Castle Hill Avenue and Cheriton Road. Local traffic via Brockman Road and Coolinge Road.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(BRADY ROAD, LYMINGE) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because manhole cleaning and cable installation works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Brady Road, Lyminge from its junction with Lasborough Lane to its junction with Woodland Road on 19 May 2008 for an estimated period of 3 days or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Lasborough Lane, Broad Street, Mayfield Road, Well Road, High Street and Woodland Road.

Highways - Borough of Swale

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROADS IN SWALE) (ROAD CLOSURE)TEMPORARY ORDER 2008

NOTICE is hereby given that to allow highway maintenance works to take place the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by traffic on the routes described in column 1 of the Schedule hereto on or after 16th June 2008 for an estimated period of one week or for a period not exceeding 18 months.

The alternative for each route described in column 1 of the Schedule hereto is described in column 2 of that Schedule.

THE SCHEDULE

North Eastling Road, Eastling from its junction with Eastling Road to its junction with Faversham Road.	Eastling Road, Newnham Lane and Faversham Road.
Wood Street, Tonge/Lynsted from its junction with Dully Road to its junction with Claxfield Road.	Dully Road, London Road and Claxfield Road.
Claxfield Road, Lynsted from its junction with Lynsted Lane to its junction with London Road.	Lynsted Lane and London Road.
Tin Shop Hill Road, Luddenham from its junction with Colegates Road to its junction with Bysing Wood Road.	Colegates Road and Bysing Wood Road.
C258 Faversham Road, Doddington/ Wichling from its junction with Doddington Lane to its junction with Wichling Green Lane.	Faversham Road, Ashford Road, Hubbards Hill, Bunce Court Road, Otterden Road, The Street, Eastling Road, Brogdale Road, London Road, Ospringe Street, London Road, Faversham Road, The Street and Doddington Lane.
Rhode Common Road, Dunkirk/Selling from its junction with Selling Road to its junction with Jezzards Lane.	Selling Road and South Street.
Scoggers Hill, Boughton Under Blean/ Dunkirk for its entire length	South Street, Jezzards Lane and Rhode Common Road.
Jezzards Lane, Boughton Under Blean from its junction with South Street to its junction with Rhode Common Road.	South Street, Scroggers Hill and Rhode Common Road.
Minching Wood Lane, Milsted from its junction with Rawling Street to its junction with Slough Road.	Rawling Street and Slough Road.
C258 Doddington Lane/The Street, Doddington/Newnham from its junction with Church Hill to its junction with Sharsted Hill.	Doddington Lane, Church Hill, Chequers Hill, Doddington Lane, Christophers Row, The Street, Lynsted Lane, London Road, Faversham Road and The Street.
Brenley Lane, Boughton Under Blean from its junction with Selling Road to its junction with Boughton Church Road.	Selling Lane, Clockhouse Lane and Brenley Lane.
Cromers Road, Sittingbourne from its junction with Highsted Road to its junction with Woodstock Road.	Woodstock Road, Bell Road and Woodstock Road
Dane Court Road (Kit Hill), Boughton Under Blean from its junction with Crouch Lane to its junction with Selling Road.	Crouch Lane and Selling Road.

Advance road works information boards will be placed prior to works commencing on site, giving details as to when works are scheduled to commence and expected duration. Each closure is not expected to last know more that one day

Order will only be effective when the appropriate signs are displayed.

For further information, please contact Geoff Harrison-Mee, Director for Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent Highway Services

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(B2231 ROWETTS WAY AND B2231 LEYSDOWN ROAD, SHEERNESS) (50 MPH SPEED LIMIT) ORDER 2008 ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

NOTICE is hereby given that the Kent County Council is proposing to make an Order under Section 84 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the effect of which will impose 50 mph speed limit on B2231 Rowetts Way, Eastchurch and B2231 Leysdown Road, Bayview, Sheerness.

A copy of the proposed Order, an explanatory statement and a map showing the details of the scheme can be inspected during normal working hours at Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone Kent, ME14 1XQ and at Swale Borough Council Offices, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME10 3HT.

Anyone wishing to support or object to this proposal may do so in writing quoting the name of the Order and Reference No. "B0833000", to Diane Bourne at Miller House, Lower Stone Street, Maidstone, Kent, ME15 6GB, stating their reasons by no later than Monday 9th June 2008.

Highways - District of Thanet

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROADS RAMSGATE TOWN CENTRE 2008) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because gas mains replacement works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on various roads as described in column one of schedule to this order on or after 2 June 2008 for an estimated period of 3 weeks or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for each road described in column 1 of the schedule to this order is described in column 3 of that schedule.

THE SCHEDULE

Specified Road	Length of road affected	Alternative routes	Programmed date
Phase 1 King Street King Street	 From the junction with Brunswick Street to the junction with Broad Street Suspension of existing one way traffic order between Broad Street and Brunswick Street	 Via Brunswick and Turner Street N/A	These works will be undertaken Sunday to Thursday only. Works will be in 3 phases from 2 June 2008 for estimated period of 3 weeks.
Phase 2			
Brunswick Street	From the junction with King Street to the junction with Turner Street	Via King Street and Broad Street	
Phase 3			
Broad Street	From the junction with King Street to the junction with Turner Street	Via Brunswick Street and Turner Street	
Broad Street	Suspension of existing one way traffic order between Broad Street and Brunswick Street	N/A	

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(GROTTO HILL,MARGATE) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because new electricity supply works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Grotto Hill,Margate from its junction with Brockley Road to its junction with Grotto Road on or after 02 June 2008 for an estimated period of one week or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Dane Road, King Street, Trinity Hill, Trinity Square, Northdown Road and Wilderness Hill.

Highways - Borough of Tonbridge & Malling

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
BIRLING HILL, SNODLAND (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are being carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Birling Hill, Snodland between Holly Hill and Paddlesworth Road.

The Order will become effective on 19th May 2008, for a period of 5 days between the hours of 09:30 and 15:30 or, until completion of the planned works. These closures will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: Stangate Road, Snodland Road, Hollow Lane, A228 Snodland Bypass/Halling Bypass/Formby Road/Rochester Road, Bush Road, Warren Road, Buckland Road, Lockyers Road, Leywood Road, Whitehorse Road

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate the erection of an Aerial cable for BT.

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
MILL HALL, AYLESFORD (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are being carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Mill Hall, Aylesford.

The Order will become effective on 19th May 2008, with works taking place between 11am 24th May 2008 and 14:00 25th May 2008 or, until completion of the planned works. These closures will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

There is no alternative route for the route described above however there will be road plates on site at all times to allow access.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate maintenance works on the railway track.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROADS, TONBRIDGE AND MALLING)(WAITING RESTRICTIONS AND ON-STREET PARKING (CONSOLIDATED AMENDMENT 2))(BOROUGH GREEN PARKING PLAN, ZONE H) ORDER 2008

Notice is hereby given that the KENT COUNTY COUNCIL acting as the local traffic authority and in exercise of its powers under Sections 1, 2 & 4 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as amended, and of all other enabling powers and after consultation with the Chief Officer of Police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the said Act, proposes to make the above Order.

The effect of the Order is to revoke restrictions in Fairfield Road, High Street, Quarry Hill Road, Rock Road, Station Road and Western Road and to introduce a new permit parking scheme in Borough Green for qualifying residents and businesses;

1. Parking in Fairfield Road (between Fairfield Gate and Roman Court) , Quarry Hill Road and Rock Road where it is proposed to manage parking with 2 hour (no return 2 hours) time-limited parking operating Monday to Friday between 8 am to 6 pm with exemptions for qualifying permit holders.
2. Parking in High Street and Western Road where it is proposed to manage parking with 2 hour (no return 2 hours) time -limited parking operating Monday to Saturday between 8 am to 6 pm with exemptions for qualifying permit holders.
3. Parking in Station Road where it is proposed to manage parking with 1 hour (no return 1 hour) time-limited parking operating Monday to Saturday between 8 am to 6 pm with exemptions for qualifying permit holders.
4. Parking in the lay-bys in High Street and Western Road where it is proposed to manage parking with 30 minute (no return 2 hours) time-limited parking operating Monday to Saturday between 8 am and 6 pm.
5. It is proposed to introduce a new Disabled Persons Parking Place in the lay-by in the High Street
6. School Access Protection Markings are proposed outside the school entrances in Wrotham Road and Hill View operating Monday to Friday at each end of the school day

The Order will contain the usual exemptions to enable a vehicle to wait with police permission or for passengers to board or alight, for the loading and unloading of goods, for enabling work to be carried out in or adjacent to the road, for disabled persons and for emergency vehicles.

The Order sets the cost of a residents parking permit at £25 per annum (£100 for business permits) available for Zone H which includes a card of 10 visitors vouchers. Additional visitors' vouchers are set at the cost of £10 for a card of 10 visitors vouchers.

The Order also proposes "No waiting at any time (double yellow line) restriction to reinforce the rules of the Highway Code and prevent parking in unsuitable places in Conyerd Road, Crow Hill Road, Fairfield Road, Harrison Road, High Street, Hill View, Lingfield Road, Maidstone Road, Quarry Hill Road, Rocks Road, Sandy Ridge, Station Road, The Avenue, The Close, Tolsey Mead, Western Road, Wrotham Road and Wye Road

A copy of the Order together with a map, a copy of the Councils reasons for proposing to make the Order, may be inspected during normal office hours at the offices of Tonbridge and Malling Council Offices, Kings Hill, West Malling or Tonbridge Castle Borough Green Library and the Kent County Council, Invicta House, County Hall Maidstone Kent.

If you have any questions concerning the Order or require further information please contact 01732 876222 during normal office hours.

Any person wishing to object to the Order should write to the Director of Planning, Transportation and Leisure, Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council, Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent ME19 4LZ quoting the name of the Order and stating their reasons, by not later than 12 noon on Monday 9th June 2008.

Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council Parking Action Plan

The Borough Green Parking Plan is a community built project developed through consultation with local people

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
TONBRIDGE & MALLING RESURFACING (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION AND RESTRICTION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 (4) THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on various roads as noted in schedule 1.

The Order will become effective on 2nd June 2008, will be in operation and will remain valid for a maximum period of eighteen months and will be brought into effect when the appropriate signs are erected on site.

The alternative routes for the routes described will be written in schedule 1.

The purpose of the closures is to facilitate carriageway resurfacing works by Kent Highway Services.

For further information please contact Kent Highway Services on 08458 247 800.

SCHEDULE 1.

Road Name	Location	Duration	Alternative Route
Avebury Avenue, Tonbridge	Whole Length	10 days	Barden Road
Barden Road, Tonbridge Vauxhall Gardens	Railway Approach to Avebury Avenue Whole Length	10 days 5 Days	None required – suspension of one way, suspension of parking 8am until 4:30pm Cul de Sac – no Alternative
Lodge Oak Lane, Tonbridge	A26 Woodgate Way to Tudeley Lane	10 days	Northbound: Lodge Oak Lane, Pembury Road, Woodgate Way Southbound: A26 Woodgate Way, Pembury Road
College Avenue & Masefield Way,	Whole Length	10 days	No Alternative Route
Nelson Avenue, Tonbridge	Whole Length	5 days	No Alternative Route
Medway Wharf Road, Tonbridge	High Street to Sovereign Way	5 days	High Street, Vale Road, Avenue du Puy, Sovereign Way
Lyons Crescent, Tonbridge	Whole Length	5 days	Southbound: East Street, High Street
			Northbound: High Street, Bordyke, East Street
Stafford Road, Tonbridge	Whole Length	5 days	Lodge Road, Lansdowne Road
Lansdowne Road, Tonbridge	Whole Length – Suspension of One Way Order	5 days	Not Required - traffic will be controlled by stop and go
The Slade, Tonbridge	Stafford Road to Blackfriars Fields	5 days	No Alternative Route
Hale Street, East Peckham	Hale Court to Boyle Way	5 days	Hale Street, Branbridges Road Boyle Way
William Luck Close, East Peckham	Whole Length	5 days	No Alternative Route
Lonewood Way, Hadlow	Whole Length	5 days	No Alternative route
Rectory Lane, Ightham	Whole Length	5 days	No Alternative Route
Beechmont Road, Tonbridge	Whole Length	5 days	Greenfrith Drive, Quincewood Gardens, Cedar Crescent, Bishops Oak Ride
Colne Road, Tonbridge	Whole Length	5 days	No Alternative Route
Hamble Close, Tonbridge	Whole Length	5 days	No Alternative Route
Waveney Road, Tonbridge	Whole Length	5 days	Darenth Avenue, A227 Shipbourne Road, Trench Road, Northwood Road

For further information, please contact Geoff Harrison-Mee, Director for Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

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Honda's upmarket aim strikes Accord

By **STEVE LOADER**

HONDA has shied away before from attacking German executive marques head-on with the Accord, but has thrown down the gauntlet this time.

The company is so confident the all-new car – arriving on June 1, but available to order now – can compete with executive car icons like the Audi A4 and BMW 3-Series that new Accord prices are at least 10 per cent higher than before.

Honda, which aspires to be seen as Japan's equivalent of BMW, is also happy to argue the case for a range now starting at £19,260.

It says the new car, joined by a smart Tourer (estate) version on September 1, offers greater refinement, more equipment and a superior fit and finish.

Market watchers at the CAP and Glass's valuation guides are also quoted as predicting a

4.4 per cent rise in residual values across all models – in short, you will pay more for your new Accord, but you will get more back.

To be fair to Honda, the past two Accord generations have been a cut above the mainstream market even if they fell short of the German benchmark, though the latter gap narrowed considerably when the previous car gained the so-called 'whispering diesel' in mid-life.

Now carried over to the latest car, this 2.2 unit is the cutting edge of Honda's campaign; allied with a less restless chassis and sharper styling, this new Accord could make inroads into the executive 'user chooser' market if leasing companies can offer competitive quotes on the basis that they should get more money back at the end of a typical three-year lease.

Honda knows it has to win over lease companies and their customers, described as "conquest, corporate customers and head office senior managers".

It hopes the new car also has younger appeal than before too, following the successful trend of the futuristic Civic hatchback and CR-V SUV.

Honda's ambition is reflected in sales forecasts: the company expects to sell 10,000 Accords in 2008 even though the car will be in the market for just half the year – UK sales for the Accord range throughout 2007 were 8,033.

The big seller is expected to be the mid-range diesel ES GT – £20,110 (petrol) and £21,910 (diesel) – with sports suspension, half-leather upholstery, an 'aero' bodykit and 17-inch alloys as standard, designed to offer great value for money against equivalents in the Audi A4, BMW 3-Series and Lexus IS line-ups.

INSIDE

Big Volvo's a big success Page 54

Prius comes top in survey Page 55

Bentley shows its class Pages 58-59

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FIRST GEAR

Compiled by Steve Loader

Big Volvos win ground in battle of the tax bands

CHANGES to UK road taxes have persuaded Volvo to tweak the powertrain on its best-selling D5 turbo-diesel version of the popular seven-seat XC90 SUV, as part of an overall revamp to the line-up.

Other innovations include a sporty R-Design styling package – as introduced on other key models – plus new exterior colours, alloys and other options.

But it is the lower emission diesel that catches the eye; the manual version of the D5 model already had a CO2 figure of 219g/km but the bigger-selling auto now emits 224g/km, falling below the Band G threshold for Vehicle Excise Duty and saving new Volvo XC90 owners £570 over three years.

This model will also save the £25-a-day London congestion charge after October for owners who need to venture into the capital.

Prices for the XC90 are unaffected by the revisions and start at £32,845.

Modest 'Chevy levy' carries on skittling rival value brands

CHEVROLET UK has yet to bowl anyone over with driving entertainment, but value for money is skittling some rivals in the market's bargain basement.

Proof of the pudding is the General Motors brand's new Epica saloon, contesting the family car or Ford Mondeo sector of the market.

Already aggressively priced from £13,595, buyers are being offered custom kits to personalise the newcomer: colour-coded front and rear skirts and side sills cost £465, while a £191 lowering kit gives the car a more purposeful stance.

But the special packs are not all for show: a fixed or detachable tow bar plus towing mirrors is available, while custom roof bars provide a secure base for a range of lockable cycle carriers and roof boxes.

The smaller Lacetti also gets the custom treatment with a new Sport version of the five-door hatch body style.

At just £12,495 and slightly larger than a Ford Focus, it comes with full leather trim, body styling kit, 15-inch alloys, lowered suspension, integrated front fog lamps and decent performance to match, via a 119bhp 1.8-litre petrol engine.

The leather seating is complemented by a leather-covered steering wheel and gear knob, plus air con, cooled glove box, four electric windows, power mirrors and a six-speaker Blaupunkt CD/radio with steering wheel-mounted controls.

Owners can also benefit from Chevrolet's £199 servicing package, covering all maintenance costs for the first three years or 30,000-miles.

• Chevrolet sales in the UK grew by 27.6 per cent in 2007 and are currently up 21 per cent year-on-year on top of that.

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BEST OF BREED: Skoda and its Octavia (pictured left) both scored highly in the survey while the Toyota Prius (above right) came out at number one for reliability and satisfaction

by STEVELOADER

Survey green light for the eco-friendly Prius

TOYOTA group cars have run away with the top prizes from the influential What Car? Magazine/JD Power customer satisfaction survey.

Lexus – Toyota's luxury arm – took the makers' top slot for the eighth successive year, while the Toyota Prius was the number one car for owners' satisfaction and reliability – the brand itself was also highly rated overall at number four.

Other top brands were: 2 – Skoda, 3 – Honda, 5 – Jaguar, while the other top five cars were: 2 – Honda Jazz, 3 – Lexus IS, 4 – shared by Toyota Yaris and Skoda Octavia.

The significance of the Prius win is that despite early consumer suspicions about the car's hybrid technology – partnering a petrol engine with electric motors and batteries – the car has leapt up the survey charts in recent years and is selling strongly.

"The Prius already has iconic status because of its green credentials; now it's demonstrating that it's also the watchword for reliability and satisfaction," said What Car? editor Steve Fowler.

"It delivers on many of the points that matter most to car buyers today: it's environmentally-friendly and reasonably frugal, yet it's also reliable and a great car to own," he said.

As you can see from our Motors TV video report at www.carsforkent.co.uk, it is fairly underwhelming to drive, but nobody can argue with proof that Prius mechanicals and batteries are robust.

However, it was Lexus that took overall honours, performing particularly well in three of four key measures: quality/reliability, service satisfaction and vehicle appeal, but JD Power researchers also highlighted the excellent performance by two 'non-premium' brands, Skoda and Honda.

Kent's Motorline group director Thomas Obee was naturally delighted by news that several of the group's brands had been highly rated.

He said: "The run of success for Lexus and Skoda is fantastic and we are pleased by the enthusiastic recognition for the Prius.

"Being number one for customer satisfaction and reliability underlines how that car has overcome apprehensions about the new hybrid technology.

"People trust it and this is reflected by rising sales of the Prius and its equivalents in the Lexus line-up. Motorline volumes for Prius have been 25 per cent up year on year for the past three years; it is not only a key element in meeting our sales targets but, significantly, we also now sell one Prius to every two Avensis, which is our main fleet model.

"We are also working hard to meet increasing demand for used Prius – again, an indication that people believe in the new technology."

• Research by the Institute of Advanced Motorists (IAM) reveals that more than a fifth of three-year-old cars fail their first MoT test, prompting the group to ask the Government if the UK test is over-zealous compared with the rest of Europe and worthy of review.

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Models shown are Terios 1.5 SX available at £14,295 OTR, and Sirion 1.3 SE available at £8,995 OTR, Materia 1.5 with manual transmission available at £10,495 including £500 off until 30th June 2008, and Copen 1.3 available at £11,495 OTR. Metallic paint is an extra cost on all vehicles. Leather seats are extra cost on Copen. *Terios was awarded 'Best Budget 4x4' in 4x4 Magazine's 4x4 of the Year Awards 2008. All prices include £55 first registration fee and 12 months road fund license. 5 year warranty includes 5 years roadside assistance. For further details please contact your Daihatsu dealer. Prices correct at time of going to print.

Official government fuel consumption figures for passenger cars mpg (litres/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km) Urban Cycle 26.4 (10.7) – 46.3 (6.1) Extra Urban 39.8 (7.1) – 64.2 (4.4) Combined 33.2 (8.5) – 56.5 (5.0) CO_2 emissions 118 – 201.

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Colt and Lancer range fuel consumption in mpg (ltrs/100km): Urban 48.7-23.9 (5.8-11.8), Extra Urban 70.6-40.9 (4.0-6.9), Combined 61.4-32.5 (4.6-8.7). CO2 emissions 121 - 207 g/km.

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Public Notice

The famous G&M Motors massive used car weekend
Friday 16th, Saturday 17th & Sunday 18th May

The showroom will be closed on the morning of Friday 16th May to allow our staff to prepare the displays and apply the offers to our stock of over 150 used cars. These cars will be offered to the general public from 12.00pm on Friday 16th May through to 4.00pm on Sunday 18th May.

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These sale offers will be on a strictly first come, first served basis.
Due to the number of visitors expected no telephone calls will be accepted during the event, so to take advantage of these great offers call in person. The owners will be on site personally to authorise these deals.

We look forward to seeing you at this unique event.

Ian Gay

Dealer Principal

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G&M Motors

DrivingReview

by **STEVE LOADER**

CHIEF DRIVING CORRESPONDENT
steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

BentleyContinental

Cruising at 60 is made simple in a Bentley

I WAS happily cruising at just 60mph on the M25 the other day.

You could say: "You were lucky, mate – it's usually bumper to bumper at 10."

But I had found a window on a day when the road 'built to keep traffic moving around London' was actually doing its job.

And yet I was not taking advantage of it.

Why? I was wafting along in a Bentley.

At a 'paltry' £117,500, the Continental Flying Spur is the cooking version in a prestigious range – some cooking version – but you soon understand why a lucky few splash out vast sums of money on one car, when they could run a fleet for the same outlay.

Leaving aside the status of running such a beast, there is tangible pleasure in just being in one; 60mph seems about right when you are so cocooned from outside that you feel as though you are witnessing events on TV:

A motorcyclist casually flicking a 'v' as he 'undertakes' a dozing Mondeo driver camped in the outside lane.

White van man weaving across lanes as he and his mate joke about the best in The Sun that day, before stuffing the paper into the detritus between screen and dashboard.

Foreign trucks pulling out to overtake – signalling too late to prevent the near misses behind.

You watch all of this with a kind of Olympian detachment, perhaps also slightly high on fumes of quality from leather chairs as comfortable as they look.

Even when you arrive at your destination, the laidback feeling continues; you look around at the beautifully made dashboard which, despite a mass of 'toys' does not feel cluttered.

Precision that has gone into making each part is exemplified by a detailed gearshift – I shudder to think how much this sculpted hunk of metal and leather cost alone.

But do not dismiss this is an old buffer's car. The Bentley marque, founded in 1919 by engineering genius Wilfred Owen Bentley, was about speed and power highlighted by famous wins at Le Mans and goliaths like the supercharged 'Blower Bentley'.

But the company flirted with financial ruin until take over by Rolls-Royce in 1931.

Bentleys later became a 'badge-engineered' alternative to RRs, until the arrival of the Mulsanne range in the 1980s – the model name evoking the brand's Le Mans heritage.

The boot was soon on the other foot, with Bentleys outstripping demand for 'Rollers' and leading to divorce in 2002 after a takeover by the VW group – Rolls-Royces are now made by BMW.

To its credit, VW has married German manufacturing efficiencies with the craft of the historic Bentley works at Crewe and enhanced the brand's sporting credentials.

The underpinnings of the Flying Spur and its two-door GT and GT Convertible sisters – including the creamy yet powerful W12-cylinder engine – are from the VW Phaeton, yet the car feels even more upmarket inside.

That engine remains docile when dawdling at 60mph, but growls politely when pushed and can take the car close to 200mph.

Handling can be adjusted to match mood, courtesy of a three-position ride/chassis selec-

DrivingStats

- Bentley Continental Flying Spur £117,500
- Range: test car - £137,500
- Garage stats: 5.3m by 1.91m four-door saloon
- Powertrain: 5,998cc/552bhp 12-cylinder petrol engine driving all four wheels through a six-speed auto gearbox
- Performance: top speed 195mph and 0-62mph in 5.2 seconds
- How green?: road tax band-G (£400/yr) and 396g/km CO2 emissions
- Official fuel figures: combined 17mpg
- Euro NCAP safety rating (0-5 stars): n/a
- Fuel tank: 90 litres/19.8 gallons
- Insurance group: 20
- Warranty: three years/unlimited miles
- Website: www.bentleymotors.co.uk
- Rivals: Audi A8, Bentley Arnage, BMW 7-Series, Jaguar XJ, Lexus LS, Maserati Quattroporte, Maybach, Mercedes S-Class, Rolls-Royce Phantom and VW Phaeton

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CRAFTMANSHIP: The gearshift (above right) and interior styling is a work of art in itself

tor. The 'Sport' setting is still cosseting by comparison with many large so-called sporting cars, yet the four-wheel drive Bentley can be piloted with precision and confidence.

Okay, driving or travelling in such style is beyond the means of most of us, while its emissions (396g/km) and thirst are hardly PC – you're lucky if the on-board computer reads above 20mpg.

But this is an awesome piece of technology and, whether through desire for status or luxurious isolation from business pressures, there will always be demand for cars like the Bentley.

Of course, they will have to change and it is ironic that some of the greener measures being introduced on lesser cars would deliver far greater savings at this level.

But it will not be long before cars like this have brakes to recover spent energy, diesel hybrid power perhaps and other clever tech – after all, the customers can afford to pay.

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RACING HERITAGE: Today's models take their lead from the famous 4.5-litre 'Blower Bentley' (right)

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TODAY TOMORROW TOYOTA

Model and specification shown RAV4 XT-R 2.0 VVT-i 5 door manual manufacturer's list price £19,995. *Advertised finance offer available on RAV4 XT-R when ordered, registered and financed through Toyota Financial Services, on a 3 year Hire Purchase Drive Plan with minimum customer deposit of 30% between 1st April 2008 and 30th June 2008 at participating Centres. Other finance offers are available but cannot be used in conjunction with this offer. Terms and conditions apply. Indemnities may be required. Finance subject to status to over 18s only. Toyota Financial Services, Great Burgh, Burgh Heath, Epsom, Surrey, KT18 5UZ. Price correct at time of going to press and includes VAT, delivery charge, number plates, one year's road fund licence and £55 first registration fee. Subject to availability.
RAV4 XT-R 2.0 VVT-i 5 door manual Official Fuel Consumption Figures in mpg (l/100km), Urban 25.7 (11.0), Extra Urban 39.2 (7.2), Combined 32.8 (8.6). CO2 Emissions 202 g/km.

ALFA ROMEO

146 TI, 5 door, p 1996, 2 owners from new with full service history.2.0l engine produces 150bhp, 5 speed manual gearbox. px is available against this car. red, 94000 miles, £1495, Courtenay Cars, Charing, Ashford, 01233 714848 (TRADE)

156, TS 16V TURISMO, gj04vxu, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, air conditioning, cd player, radio, electric windows, power steering, air bag, colour coded body, 16'' alloys, red, 58000 miles, £4699, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

AUDI

A2, SE 5dr, gk02 oec, remote central locking, alarm, rear headrests, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, electric front windows, electric mirrors, traction control, air conditioning, climate control, cd player, radio, twin air bags, abs, power steering, cloth upholstery, alloy wheels, blue, 56300 miles, £5995, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

A3, 2.0 TDI SPORT 5dr, 122813127, abs, air bag, twin air bags, side air bags, alarm, traction control, climate control, electric front windows, electric windows, rear wash/wipe, electric mirrors, front fog lamps, alloy wheels, silver, 61336 miles, £12999, AutoPlanet Maidstone, Maidstone, 0845 871 5185 (TRADE)

A4, - 2.0 TDI S LINE 4dr, 992649, audi a4 2.0 tdi s line 4dr honda honda ashford drake & fletcher silver, 2005, 32059 miles, manual, diesel, 4 doors, 1 previous owners, silver, £15280, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

A4, 1.9TDI 130 SE ESTATE, 2003, blue m with grey cloth, 67000 miles, £8950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

TT, QUATTRO, 577461, remote central locking, electric mirrors, e/w, air bag, abs, power steering, cd player, colour coded body, head restraints, full leather, metallic paintwork, central locking, multi-disc cd player, climate control, alloys, 4x4, olive green, 76000 miles, £8999, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

TT, QUATTRO 1.8 20V T 225PS, dec 2001 wf51xod, three previous keepers, pas, remote central locking, climate control, electric windows, 6 speed gearbox, full service history, single cd player, twin & side airbags, abs brakes, esp, immobiliser, alarm, electric mirrors, front fogs, tinted glass, seat height adjuster, grey leather interior, sports seats, alloys. brilliant black met, 45, 500 miles, £12, 995, Hollis Motors, Dover, 01304 206710 (TRADE)

BENTLEY

ARNAGE, RED LABEL AUTO, 2001, blenhiem silver with black leather, 50000 miles, £44950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

BMW

318 SE SALLOON, 2002 (face lift) 4 door saloon, 143 bhp, stunning met grey with immaculate grey trim, fsh, manual, traction control, cc, remote central locking, alarm, air con, power seats, ew x 4, electric & folding mirrors, alloys, only £7695,102, 000 miles, Riviera Car Sales, Folkestone, 01303 244244 (TRADE)

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1 SERIES, 120D SE 5dr, hy06guo, abs, air bag, twin air bags, side air bags, alarm, traction control, climate control, electric front windows, electric windows, rear wash/wipe, electric mirrors, front fog lamps, parking sensor, alloy wheels, grey met, 18112 miles, £14999, AutoPlanet Maidstone, Maidstone, 0845 871 5185 (TRADE)

318, 2003, mauritus blue, 25478 miles, £9995, WJ King Vauxhall, Bromley, 020 8464 3456 (TRADE)

320 2.0, TD SE 6 Speed, 2004, black, 51000 miles, £9995, Morris Forshaw, Maidstone, 01622 750 442 (TRADE)

325I, TURBO DIESEL, 1995 (m), 94 (m) bmw 325i turbo diesel 4 door saloon, stunning citrus yellow coachwork with grey velour trim, long mot, pas, ew, em, air bags, remote central locking/alarm, hi-fi, huge 18" momo alloys, lowered, clear lights, recent service, etc. a well looked after example. a bargain at only £2295 now only £1695, citrus yellow, miles, £only £1695, Riviera Car Sales, Folkestone, 01303 244244 (TRADE)

6 SERIES, 645CI COUPE, 2004, mystic blue with black dakota leather, 39000 miles, £24950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

7 SERIES, 745I AUTO, 2002, silver met with black nascar leather, 52000 miles, £14950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

7 SERIES, 735I AUTO, 2002, oxford green metallic with beige nappa exclusive, 79000 miles, £11950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

CHRYSLER

300C, 5.7V8 AUTO ESTATE, 2007, brilliant crystal met with dark and light slate gr, 10577 miles, £18950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

NEON, RT 16V, fy02 kxu, front fog lamps, remote central locking, alarm, rear headrests, rear spoiler, full leather, height adjustable seat, electric front windows, electric windows, traction control, radio cassette, cd player, air conditioning, twin air bags, adjustable steering column, abs, power steering, alloy wheels, silver, 57200 miles, £2695, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

PT CRUISER 2LITRE LIMITED auto petrol 2004 (54 plate) 35,000 miles, inferno red leather and suede interior air con central locking chrome wheels MOT Til September Tax til August £5995 01227 374023

CITROEN

CITROEN BERLINGO 800, 04 2005, 1.9d lx side door white pas 43.000 miles fsh lined, £4800, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

CITROEN BERLINGO 800, 04 05, 1.9 d lx side door electric windows 28, 000 miles, £5295, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

C2, 1.1I CACHET 3dr, 2008, 1.1i cachet 3dr hatch sp eds, arctic steel, 1000 miles, £7995, Masters Citroen, Penge, 0208 659 0909 (TRADE)

C3, 1.1I DESIRE 5dr, 2006, 1.1i desire 5dr hatch special edition, silver, 16547 miles, £6195, Masters Citroen, Penge, 0208 659 0909 (TRADE)

C3, 1.4I COOL 5dr, 2007, 1.4i cool 5dr hatch special edition, tuscan blue, 11287 miles, £6995, Masters Citroen, Penge, 0208 659 0909 (TRADE)

DAEWOO

NUBIRA 4 door saloon, 06 2000, 1.6 p se mot july 08, 0 miles, £500, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

DAIHATSU

CHARADE, 1.0 SL 5Dr Hatchback, 07/2004, a/con alloy wheels electric windows central locking pas, champagne, 11, 000 miles, £3995, Cheriton Motor House, Folkestone, 01303 275795 (TRADE)

COPEN, ACTIVETOP 1.3, 08/2008, red leather interior pas remote central locking rear spoiler dual exhaust pipes a/con e/w sports seats, grey metallic, delivery miles, £12370, Cheriton Motor House, Folkestone, 01303 275795 (TRADE)

FIAT

PANDA, DYNAMIC, 2004, yellow, 32817 miles, £3995, Morris Forshaw, Maidstone, 01622 750 442 (TRADE)

PUNTO, 1.2 8V ACTIVE Hatchback 3dR, 04/2004, electric windows city pas c/locking awaiting picture, grey, 51, 000 miles, £3995, Cheriton Motor House, Folkestone, 01303 275795 (TRADE)

FORD

C-MAX, GHIA (2005) 5-Dr 1.8 Duratec cd player abs alarm driver airbag power steering immobiliser electric windows, black, 22709 miles, £6999, Invicta Motors, Ramsgate, 01843 853555 (TRADE)

C-MAX, GHIA (2005) 5-Dr 1.8 Duratec abs driver airbag power steering immobiliser electric windows, green, 32527 miles, £7499, Invicta Motors, Ashford, 01233 504400 (TRADE)

FIESTA, STYLE 1.4TDCI New model, 2005, moondust silver with charcoal/blue trim, 40000 miles, £6495, IJM Motors, Strood, 01634 296688 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 TDCI Style Climate, 2007, moondust silver, 0 miles, £8995, CB Motors, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE

FOCUS, 1.6 STYLE 5dr [115]2007, abs driver airbag power steering immobiliser cruise control e/w, blue, 12094 miles, £8299, Invicta Motors, Canterbury, 08444 992321 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.6 STYLE 5dr [115] 2007, cd player abs driver airbag power steering immobiliser e/w, silver, 12363 miles, £8299, Invicta Motors, Canterbury, 08444 992321 (TRADE)

HONDA

ACCORD, CDI EXECUTIVE, 2005, trim: leather engine size: 2200 transmission: manual no. of doors: 5, grey, 33000 miles, £11995, Palm Bay, Margate, 01843 298554 (TRADE)

ACCORD, - 2.2 I-CTDI Ex 4dr, 978649, honda accord 2.2 i-ctdi ex 4dr silver, 2007, 6000 miles, manual, diesel, 4 doors, 1 previous owners, silver, £18489, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

ACCORD, - 2.0 I-VTEC EXECUTIVE 5dr, 1087649, honda accord 2.0 i-vtec executive 5dr honda honda ashford drake & fletcher blue, 2004, 41271 miles, manual, petrol, 5 doors, 1 previous owners, blue, £8990, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

CIVIC, - 1.6 I-VTEC EXECUTIVE 5dr Auto, 1106649, honda civic 1.6 i-vtec executive 5dr auto honda honda ashford drake & fletcher grey, 2005, 12439 miles, automatic, petrol, 5 doors, 1 previous owners, grey, £9990, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

CIVIC, - 1.4 SE + (Body Kit + 16 Inch Alloys), 1109649, honda civic 1.4 se + (body kit + 16 inch alloys) honda honda ashford drake & fletcher silver, 2008, 10 miles, manual, petrol, 5 doors, 0 previous owners, silver, £13990, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

HYUNDAI

ACCENT 1.3, 2002, silver, 41625 miles, £2995, Morris Forshaw, Maidstone, 01622 750 442 (TRADE)

AMICA, 1.1 CDX, 2006, aqua tint, 14000 miles, £4995, Morris Forshaw, Maidstone, 01622 750 442 (TRADE)

COUPE, 2.0 SE AUTO, 2006, ebony black, 13000 miles, £9995, Morris Forshaw, Maidstone, 01622 750 442 (TRADE

MATRIX, 1.6 GSI, 2005, milky silver, 15000 miles, £5995, Morris Forshaw, Maidstone, 01622 750 442 (TRADE)

MATRIX, 1.6 GSI, 2002, milky silver, 75000 miles, £2995, Morris Forshaw, Maidstone, 01622 750 442 (TRADE)

JAGUAR

S-TYPE, 3.0 V6 SE, 2001, central locking front electric windows air conditioning power steering drivers airbag alloy wheels immobiliser, star silver, 53000 miles, £5000, A 1 Carriages, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

SOVEREIGN, 4.0 SALOON 4d 3980cc auto, p 1997, electric windows, electric mirrors, remote central alarmed locking, air conditioning, radio cassette system, cruise control, cream interior leather, electric seats, memory seats, alloys, lots of service history. metallic silver/grey, miles, £3995, Westbrook Cars, Canterbury, 01227 710685 (TRADE)

X-TYPE, 2.0D CLASSIC 5dr [Euro 4], abs, air bag, twin air bags, side air bags, alarm, traction control, electric front windows, rear wash/wipe, electric mirrors, front fog lamps, alloy wheels, met black, 21643 miles, £12999, AutoPlanet Maidstone, Maidstone, 0845 871 5185 (TRADE)

JEEP

GRAND CHEROKEE, 1997, green, 180000 miles, £2995, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

KIA

CERATO, LX, gk05tzw, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, head restraints, air conditioning, electric windows, power steering, air bag, cd player, radio, black, 42000 miles, £4999, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

PICANTO, - 1.1 LX 5dr, 1169649, kia picanto 1.1 lx 5dr honda honda Tunbridge Wells drake & fletcher blue, 2005, 40519 miles, manual, petrol, 5 doors, 1 previous owners, blue, £3995, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

LAND ROVER

DEFENDER, 90 TDI Hard Top, l51nbm, immobiliser, cd player, power steering, tow pack, 4x4, road tax is £185 per year, blue, 62000 miles, £7995, Diesel Centre, Staplehurst, 01580 890333 (TRADE)

DEFENDER, 110 TD5 XS STATION WAGON, remote alarm, remote central locking, half leather, traction control, abs, power steering, rear wash/wipe, side steps, tow pack, air con, cd player, alloy wheels, 4x4, 9 seater. cairns blue metallic, 49000 miles, £19995, Diesel Centre, Staplehurst, 01580 890333 (TRADE)

FREELANDER, 2001, blue metalic with grey, 61500 miles, £4495, IJM Motors, Strood, 01634 296688 (TRADE)

FREELANDER, 2000, copper bronze metalic with grey two tone leather, 52000 miles, £4695, IJM Motors, Strood, 01634 296688 (TRADE)

FREELANDER, 1998, met green with beige, 91644 miles, £3250, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

LEXUS

GS 300 SE, 511461, full leather, cd player, climate control, metallic paintwork, rear headrests, abs, air bag, radio, electric windows, electric mirrors, power steering, immobiliser, remote alarm, electric seats, 16'' alloys, grey, 90000 miles, £7999, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

GS 300 SE, 503461, remote alarm, central locking, full leather, electric seats, air bag, abs, power steering, metallic paintwork, cd player, climate control, electric windows, electric mirrors, 15'' alloys, blue, 120000 miles, £3999, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

MAZDA

323, - 2.0 SPORT 5dr [ac], 1167649, mazda 323 2.0 sport 5dr [ac] mazda mazda maidstone drake & fletcher green, 2001, 42000 miles, manual, petrol, 5 doors, 3 previous owners, green, £3989, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

323F, SE, 2000, silver, 41000 miles, £3995, Morris Forshaw, Maidstone, 01622 750 442 (TRADE)

MAZDA6, - 1.8 TS 5dr, 1170649, mazda mazda 6 1.8 ts 5dr mazda mazda Tunbridge Wells drake & fletcher blue, 2003, 49000 miles, manual, petrol, 5 doors, 2 previous owners, blue, £5689, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

MAZDA6, - 2.0 TS2 [147] 5dr Auto, 1171649, mazda mazda 6 2.0 ts2 [147] 5dr auto mazda mazda maidstone drake & fletcher grey, 2006, 19000 miles, automatic, petrol, 5 doors, 1 previous owners, grey, £10489, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

RX8, - 232 EVOLVE Leather, 1126649, mazda rx-8 232 evolve leather mazda mazda maidstone drake & fletcher copper red, 2006, 11000 miles, manual, petrol, 4 doors, 1 previous owners, red, £14789, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

RX8, - 4dr [192], 1157649, mazda rx-8 4dr [192] mazda mazda ashford drake & fletcher blue, 2005, 31000 miles, manual, petrol, 4 doors, 1 previous owners, blue, £10995, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

MERCEDES-BENZ

230 SPORT KOMPRESSOR, 1998, fantastic car with full ivory leather interior.full sport pack. lilac/blue, 57, 000 miles, £5999.00, Bob Fisher Garage, Ashford, 01303 814131 (TRADE)

A CLASS, A140 CLASSIC Auto, 1999, insurance group 5 abs alarm drivers airbag electric mirrors e/w fog lights heated door mirrors immobiliser passenger airbag pas rear electric windows remote central locking service indicator side airbags 3 owners, smoke grey, 60000 miles, £3000, A 1 Carriages, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

C CLASS, C180K AVANTGARDE SE 4dr Auto, lr05xzx, abs, air bag, twin air bags, side air bags, alarm, traction control, cruise control, electric front windows, electric windows, electric mirrors, fogs, alloy wheels, silver bronze met, 28496 miles, £13999, AutoPlanet Maidstone, Maidstone, 0845 871 5185 (TRADE)

C CLASS, C180K ELEGANCE SE 4dr Auto, abs, air bag, twin air bags, side air bags, alarm, traction control, cruise control, electric front windows, electric windows, electric mirrors, front fog lamps, alloy wheels, silver, 32557 miles, £14999, AutoPlanet Maidstone, Maidstone, 0845 871 5185 (TRADE)

MG

MGF, F I SPORTS, 613461, remote central locking, full leather, air conditioning, air bag, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, head restraints, power steering, cd player, radio, electric windows, immobiliser, 15'' alloys, green, 75000 miles, £2999, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

MGF, x253xke, alarm, central locking, immobiliser, locking wheel nuts, half leather, head restraints, lumbar support, sports seats, power steering, electric front windows, air conditioning, radio cassette, alloy wheels, silver green, 26612 miles, £4495, Saunders Abbott, Sidcup, 020 8300 2450 (TRADE)

MGF, - TF 1.8 CONVERTIBLE, 997649, mg mgf tf 1.8 convertible mazda mazda maidstone drake & fletcher blue, 2002, 69000 miles, manual, petrol, 2 doors, 3 previous owners, blue, £4489, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

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MGTF, 1.8 135 16V 2dr, 10/06/2002, grey, 44396 miles, £5499, Invicta Motors, Canterbury, 08444 992321 (TRADE)

MINI

COOPER, 1.6, 2003, alloys drivers airbag electric mirrors e/w immobiliser passenger airbag pas rear electric windows remote central locking service history, aluminium silver, 48000 miles, £8000, A 1 Carriages, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

COOPER, 3dr Auto, front fog lamps, parking sensor, half leather, remote central locking, alarm, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, e/w, electric mirrors, heated seats, air con, abs, power steering, tc, alloys, red, 50100 miles, £7495, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

ONE, - 1.6 3dr, 959649, mini one 1.6 3dr mazda mazda Toolbridge Wells drake & fletcher black, 2004, 34500 miles, manual, petrol, 1 previous owners, black, £9495, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

MINI ONE, 5 door, 2002, cd player air con central locking driver's airbag pas history check, red, 58500 miles, £7295, Pomphrey's of Sittingbourne, Sittingbourne, 01795 476222 (TRADE)

MITSUBISHI

L 200, 09 2006, 2.5 td d-id 4 life 4x4 pick up air /con 9.000 miles day cab met blue, £9995, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

L200, WARRIOR, lv05rkj, immobiliser. black, 17500 miles, £9994, SMC Mitsubishi Erith, Erith, 0844 5762449 (TRADE

LANCER, EVOLUTION IX 2.0 FQ-320 4dr, gn06lru, adjustable steering column/wheel, alloy wheels, climate control, driver airbag, electric mirrors, e/w, immobiliser, passenger airbag, pas, rear armrest, remote locking, sports seats, red, 8896 miles, £21994, SMC Mitsubishi Sittingbourne, Sittingbourne, 0844 5762476 (TRADE)

SHOGUN, 3.2 DI-DC EQUIPPE 3dr Auto, 08, save over, silver, 25 miles, £24144, SMC Mitsubishi Sittingbourne, Sittingbourne, 0844 5762476 (TRADE)

SHOGUN, 3.2 DI-DC WARRIOR 5dr Auto, 08, this is a new vehicle with a saving of over, black, 50 miles, £26698, SMC Mitsubishi Erith, 0844 5762449 (TRADE)

NISSAN

NISSAN PRIMASTAR 2700 SE, 092006, 1.9 dci 100 swb elec windows 6 speed cd blue 5,000 miles as new, £9695, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

MICRA, CELEBRATION LTD EDN, 2000, celebration special editions; manual 3 door; green, body coloured bumpers; driver's airbag; folding rear seats; front head restraints; immobiliser; isofix child seat anchor points;cassette radio; pas; fsh; recent service;long mot; low insurance; great condition;, green, 29000 miles, £1650, Folkestone, 01303 240796 (PRIVATE)

NAVARA, - OUTLAW Diesel Double Cab, 579649, nissan navara outlaw diesel double cab mazda mazda maidstone drake & fletcher blue, 2006, 21000 miles, manual, diesel, 4 doors, 1 previous owners, blue, £11495, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

NAVARA, DIESEL (2001 -), ey52dnj, double cab, alloy wheels, brand new in stock, cd player, electric mirrors, electric windows, finance available, full dealer facilities, hp+leasing, lwb, pcp. blue, 67021 miles, £7490, SMC Ford Crayford, Crayford, 0844 4999792 (TRADE)

NOTE, 1.6 TEKNA 5dr, wr57yrz, abs, air bag, twin air bags, side air bags, climate control, half leather, electric front windows, electric windows, multi-disc cd player, cd player, rear wash/wipe, electric mirrors, front fog lamps, alloy wheels, met black, 1236 miles, £10299, AutoPlanet Maidstone, Maidstone, 0845 871 5185 (TRADE)

PRIMERA, 1.8I SE 5dr, 122447127, abs, air bag, twin air bags, side air bags, alarm, central locking, climate control, electric front windows, electric windows, cd player, satellite navigation, rear wash/wipe, front fog lamps, parking sensor, alloy wheels, blue met, 35000 miles, £6999, AutoPlanet Maidstone, Maidstone, 0845 871 5185 (TRADE)

PEUGEOT

PEUGEOT EXPERT 815, 09 2005, 1.9d 3 saets twin doors 40.000 miles lined met silver, £6795, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

106, XN 3dr, 438461, cloth upholstery, rear wash/wipe, air bag, radio cassette, red, 72000 miles, £1299, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

106, INDEP 1., gf02vkb, finished in orange with interior, orange, 27000 miles, £3495, caffyns chevrolet t wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

206, GTI 3dr, 472461, remote central locking, half leather, head restraints, power steering, abs, air bag, auto lighting, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, cd player, air con, electric windows,alloys, blue, 52000 miles, £4999, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

306, 1.4, 1998, met red, 85046 miles, £1995, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

307, 2.0 XSI HDI SW, ey05lxw, alarm, remote alarm, adjustable steering column, cruise control, power steering, stability control, trip computer, electric mirrors, electric windows, powered folding mirrors, abs, half leather, multiple airbags, climate control, panoramic sunroof, height adjustable seat, auto lighting, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, radio cassette, steering wheel audio controls, multi-disc cd player, roof rails, rear wash/wipe, alloy wheels, blue metallic, 54000 miles, £7990, AR Cars, Kent, 01342 851122 (TRADE)

406, LX, 1997, blue with beige, 160000 miles, £1295, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

PORSCHE

911 CARRERA 4, 2002, meridian silver with blue leather, 46000 miles, £29950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

911 TURBO, 3.6 manual, 2003, black metallic with black leather, 17800 miles, £49950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

CAYMAN, 3.4 S 2dr, 3.4 s 2dr coupe, 26000 miles, £33995, Wilmoths Ashford, Ashford, 01233 640100 (TRADE)

PROTON

PERSONA, 1.5 GLSI Saloon 4d 1468cc auto, s 1999, electric windows, power assisted steering, drivers airbag, sunroof, remote mirrors, radio cassette. green, miles, £1995, Westbrook Cars, Canterbury, 01227 710685 (TRADE)

RENAULT

RENAULT KANGOO sl17 70 +, 01 2006, 1.5 dci side door met silver elec pack 41.000 miles fsh manufactuers warranty, £4975, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

RENAULT MASTER T35, 08 2006, 2.5 dci 120 hi top air/con 36.000 miles fsh white, £9995, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

RENAULT MASTER T35, 08 2006, 2.5 dci 120 hi top air/con white 38.000 miles fsh, £9995, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

r**ENAULT TRAFFIC 2.7 T SWB**, 11 2006, 1.9cdti 100 ps 6 speed white 15.000 miles, £9495, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

CLIO, 1.2 16V EXTREME 3dr, 122765127, abs, air bag, twin air bags, side air bags, electric front windows, rear wash/wipe, alloy wheels, platinum silver, 15986 miles, £6699, AutoPlanet Maidstone, Maidstone, 0845 871 5185 (TRADE)

CLIO, 1.4 16V EXPRESSION 5dr Auto [AC], ht04huy, abs, air bag, twin air bags, side air bags, electric front windows, cd player, rear wash/wipe, electric mirrors, blue met, 25000 miles, £5999, AutoPlanet Maidstone, Maidstone, 0845 871 5185 (TRADE)

LAGUNA, EXTREME 2.0 16V, 2005, trim: cloth engine size: 2000 transmission: manual no. of doors: 5, storm blue, 15830 miles, £7495, Palm Bay, Margate, 01843 298554 (TRADE)

LAGUNA, DYNAMIQUE 1.9DCI, 2008, trim: part leather engine size: 1900 transmission: manual no. of doors: 5, pearl black, 2000 miles, £19995, Palm Bay, Margate, 01843 298554 (TRADE)

MEGANE, OASIS 1.6 5 DR, 2005, trim: cloth engine size: 1600 transmission: manual no. of doors: 5, flame red, 27200 miles, £6995, Palm Bay, Margate, 01843 298554 (TRADE)

MEGANE, SPORT 225, 2005, trim: leather engine size: 2000 transmission: manual no. of doors: 3, extreme orange, 20400 miles, £11995, Palm Bay, Margate, 01843 298554 (TRADE)

ROVER

200, 216 CABRIOLET, 1997, grey, 0 miles, £1295, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

25, SEI 16V 5dr, hy05 ukm, front fog lamps, rear headrests, rear wash/wipe, remote central locking, alarm, immobiliser, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, cd player, radio, air conditioning, air bag, abs, power steering, electric windows, electric mirrors, cloth upholstery, alloy wheels, red, 10800 miles, £4995, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

SAAB

9-3, LINEAR TID 1.9, oct 2004 gf54wdc, two previous keepers, power steering, remote central locking, air conditioning, electric windows, 6 speed gearbox, full service history, radio/cd player, twin & side airbags, abs brakes, engine immobiliser, car alarm, on-board computer, tinted glass, adj. steering column, seat height adjuster, alloy wheels. silver metallic, 32, 000 miles, £9, 495, Hollis Motors, Dover, 01304 206710 (TRADE)

SEAT

ALTEA, SPORT TDI 2.0 140PS 5dr DSG, nov 2004 gk54ouy, one previous keeper, power steering, remote central locking, climate control, electric windows, 6 speed dsg gearbox, full service history, radio/cd player, twin & side airbags, abs brakes, tcs, engine immobiliser, on-board computer, cruise control, electricdoor mirrors, auto dim rear view mirror, front fog lamps, tinted glass, rear wash/wipe, adj. steering column, seat height adjuster, sports seats, split rear seats, alloy wheels, parking sensors, two tier boot floor. luna grey metallic, 11, 000 miles, £11, 495, Hollis Motors, Dover, 01304 206710 (TRADE)

ALTEA, 2.0 TDI SPORT 5dr DSG, 10/01/2006, cd player abs driver airbag power steering immobiliser electric windows, blue, 23475 miles, £9499, Invicta Motors, Canterbury, 08444 992321 (TRADE)

IBIZA, 1.4 DAB 5dr, 09/09/2006, cd player driver airbag power steering electric windows, grey, 17999 miles, £6999, Invicta Motors, Ashford, 01233 504400 (TRADE)

IBIZA, SX 1.2 12V 64PS 3dr, may 2005 gf05uyj, two previous keepers, power steering, remote central locking, climate control, electric windows, 5 speed gearbox, full service history, radio/cd player, twin airbags, abs brakes, engine immobiliser, front fog lamps, tinted glass, rear wash/wipe, adj. steering column, seat height adjuster, split rear seats, alloy wheels. platinum grey metallic, 18, 500 miles, £5, 895, Hollis Motors, Dover, 01304 206710 (TRADE)

IBIZA, 2005, 3x3 point rear seat belts abs air conditioning alloy wheels body coloured bumpers cloth seat trim drivers airbag folding rear seats front electric windows front fog lights front head restraints immobiliser isofix child seat anchor points pas passenger airbag radio/cd rear headrests rear wiper remote central locking sports seats steering wheel rake adjustment steering wheel reach adjustment, black magic, 10700 miles, £6695, WJ King Vauxhall, Swanley, 01322 662890 (TRADE)

LEON, 2006, luna grey, 13156 miles, £12495, WJ King Vauxhall, Bromley, 020 8464 3456 (TRADE)

LEON, - 1.8 20V T CUPRA 5dr, 1149649, seat leon 1.8 20v t cupra 5dr mazda mazda maidstone drake & fletcher black, 2002, 57000 miles, manual, petrol, 5 doors, 2 previous owners, black, £5989, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

LEON, CUPRA 1.9 TDI (150) 5dr, lg04vyj, alarm, immobiliser, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, centre armrest, height adjustable seat, sports seats, pas, t/c, trip computer, abs, child locks, side air bags, twin air bags, colour coded body, front fog lamps, metallic paintwork, rear spoiler, rear wash/wipe, electric mirrors, electric windows, climate control, multi-disc cd player, radio cassette, alloys, silver, 67000 miles, £8990, AR Cars, Kent, 01342 851122 (TRADE)

SUBARU

IMPREZA, WRX TURBO, 2004, red, 38000 miles, £10995, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

TOYOTA

AVENSIS, 1.8 VVTI GS 4dr (2000 - 2003), 28/03/2002, driver airbag power steering electric windows, red, 36788 miles, £4499, Invicta Motors, Ashford, 01233 504400 (TRADE)

CELICA, VVTI, 2006, red, 20000 miles, £11495, Morris Forshaw, Maidstone, 01622 750 442 (TRADE)

MR2, 2.0, 369461, full leather, power steering, central locking, abs, air bag, electric windows, twin sunroofs, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, stereo, electric mirrors, uk supplied, 15'' alloys, aluminiumsilverblack, 73000 miles, £4499, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

VAUXHALL

VAUXHALL COMB 2000, 05 2006, 1.7 cdti crew van 5 seats twin side doors dark blue cd elec rear wipe 33.000 mil;es fsh, 0 miles, £5995, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

ASTRA, SRI+CDTI, gk57sfy, finished in red with black interior, red, 7000 miles, £14995, Caffyns Tunbridge Wells Vauxhall, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

ASTRA, SXI 1.4, 90637, finished in ultra blue with black interior, blue, 11000 miles, £8495, Caffyns Tunbridge Wells Vauxhall, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

CORSA, 2002, green, 53303 miles, £3495, WJ King Vauxhall, Swanley, 01322 662890 (TRADE)

VECTRA, 1.8I VVT LIFE 5dr, vk57xgr, abs, air bag, twin air bags, side air bags, alarm, air con, cruise control, e/w, rear wash/wipe, electric mirrors, ultra blue met, 1490 miles, £9499, AutoPlanet Maidstone, Maidstone, 0845 871 5185 (TRADE)

VXR8, 4 door, 2007, cd player sunroof air conditioning alloy wheels central locking driver's airbag multiple airbags pas immobiliser electric windows, phantom black, 6775 miles, £32995, Pomphrey's of Sittingbourne, Sittingbourne, 01795 476222 (TRADE)

ZAFIRA, 2006, star silver, 19387 miles, £10995, WJ King Vauxhall, Rochester, 01634 723723 (TRADE)

ZAFIRA, 2006, black sapphire, 20142 miles, £8795, WJ King Vauxhall, Rochester, 01634 723723 (TRADE)

VOLKSWAGEN

BEETLE, 1.8T 3dr, ve53voh, abs, air bag, twin air bags, side air bags, alarm, traction control, central locking, air con, electric front windows, electric mirrors, front fog lamps, alloy wheels, met blue, 51763 miles, £7999, AutoPlanet Maidstone, Maidstone, 0845 871 5185 (TRADE)

BEETLE, 2.0, ld02adu, finished in silver with interior, silver, 70000 miles, £4020, Caffyns Tunbridge Wells Vauxhall, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

GOLF, S 3dr, gk52bmz, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, head restraints, power steering, air bag, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, air conditioning, electric windows, cd player, immobiliser, electric mirrors, grey, 39000 miles, £4999, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

GOLF, S, 440461, immobiliser, cloth upholstery, head restraints, power steering, electric windows, sunroof, air bag, cd player, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, stereo, 15'' alloys, aluminium silver, 75000 miles, £4499, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

GOLF, 2.0 GT FSI 5dr, ef04frd, abs, air bag, twin air bags, side air bags, alarm, traction control, air conditioning, climate control, electric front windows, electric windows, cd player, rear wash/wipe, electric mirrors, front fogs, alloy wheels, reflex silver, 57300 miles, £8999, AutoPlanet Maidstone, 0845 871 5185 (TRADE)

POLO, 1.2 E 55 3dr (2002 - 2005), 20/12/2005, cd player abs driver airbag immobiliser electric windows, red, 17192 miles, £5499, Invicta Motors, Ramsgate, 01843 853555 (TRADE)

POLO, - 1.2 SE 65 5dr, 1015649, volkswagen polo 1.2 se 65 5dr honda honda ashford drake & fletcher green, 2002, 38944 miles, manual, petrol, 5 doors, 1 previous owners, green, £4380, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

SHARAN, 1.9 TDI SE 115 5dr, 122661127, abs, air bag, twin air bags, side air bags, alarm, central locking, climate control, electric front windows, electric windows, rear wash/wipe, electric mirrors, parking sensor, alloy wheels, black met, 27319 miles, £10999, AutoPlanet Maidstone, Maidstone, 0845 871 5185 (TRADE)

TOURAN, 1.9 TDI PD S 90 5dr [7 Seat], 122624127, abs, air bag, twin air bags, side air bags, traction control, cruise control, electric front windows, rear wash/wipe, electric mirrors, alloy wheels, reflex silver, 11709 miles, £11499, AutoPlanet Maidstone, Maidstone, 0845 871 5185 (TRADE)

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C70, 2.3 T5 GT 2dr Auto, oy52fhp, abs, air bag, side air bags, alarm, traction control, climate control, cruise control, heated seats, electric front windows, multi-disc cd player, electric mirrors, front fog lamps, headlamp wash/wipe, alloy wheels, silver, 69621 miles, £8999, AutoPlanet Maidstone, Maidstone, 0845 871 5185 (TRADE)

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Faith in a youthful future

By **TONY PATEY**
Business Editor

KENT'S young people were in the business spotlight this week as two initiatives were unveiled – one to help them launch their own firms and another to help plug the science skills gap.

Youngsters who want to become their own boss can now access a range of services being offered by the Kent Foundation, an independent charity supported by Kent County Council.

They include a series of workshops to give them business skills, a minimum income for a certain period for those ready to start trading, and a share in larger promotional events or activities to cut advertising costs.

At the Maidstone launch on Tuesday, KCC chairman Leyland Ridings presented a 10 years in business award to Sean Broad of Maidstone-based Broad Signs.

Meanwhile, the Kent Science Resource Centre has been set up to improve technical skills and training opportunities for students who want to enter – or re-enter – bioscience, research and technology, by providing vocational and degree-level training in the region.

CUTTING EDGE: Stefan Molitar joins the partners in officially opening the centre

This is a first for the South East England Development Agency region, and Seeda is providing extra funding to the £1.6 million investment by government department Communities and Local Government, and so is Kent Science Park. Stefan Molitor, site director at Abbott in Dartford, said: "The manufacturing processes in the pharmaceutical industry are very technical and complex. It needs a whole range of good scientists to support these processes. As an industry we also need good technicians in far, far greater numbers and this is why KSRC is so important."

Based at Kent Science Park, the centre is managed by the International Institute of Biotechnology and Sittingbourne Enterprise Hub, with Mid-Kent College as academic partner.

It is opening its doors with a practical-based and industry-led modern foundation degree in Life Science Laboratory Technology and Bio-Manufacturing, offered by Mid-Kent College and Canterbury Christ Church University, and validated by the University of Kent with further support from the University of Greenwich at Medway.

Its facilities are also available for hire by schools or the bio-pharm sector, and new short courses are being planned to encourage pupils to study sciences at school with a view to a career in an industry crucial to the UK economy.

Tim Bentley, chairman of the Sittingbourne Enterprise Hub, said: "The pharmaceutical industry has long complained about the lack of degree-trained students. We need to attract companies here and local technical skills are vital.

"We and the biotechnology institute recognised this problem more than two years ago, and along with Seeda and other partners, we did something about it."

Would-be entrepreneurs can contact the Kent Foundation (Paul Barron, director) on 01622 694323, or email paul.barron@kent.gov.uk, website www.kentfoundation.org.

Hotelier reaching for new heights

LOOKING to the future from one of the most famous vantage points in the world – the White Cliffs of Dover – is Kent businessman Gavin Oakley who has just added a second hotel to his local portfolio, ***writes Tony Patey***.

I'm willing to bet we're going to see a lot more of Mr Oakley as his business interests expand. A few years back he took up the reins of the family-run, four-star, award-winning Wallett's Court Country House Hotel and Restaurant and Spa, at St Margaret's, near Dover.

Now, in a £1.5 million package being rolled out over the next few months, he has taken over three-star White Cliffs Hotel, just a mile away in St Margaret's-at-Cliffe.

This historic hotel and eaterie, formerly the Garden House Hotel, is in the heart of the village and centres around a traditional weather-boarded inn, parts of which date back to Elizabethan times. Many of the 15 bedrooms have been refurbished to give them a contemporary twist, while the loft has been converted into a luxury micro spa.

Wallett's Court, which dates from the 17th century and has 17 bedrooms, attracts guests from all over the UK. It has secured rave reviews from guests and critics alike – the hotel's restaurant has two AA rosettes.

Mr Oakley said: "We're taking a new approach. We want to capture the essence of life in coastal England by introducing a fresh, contemporary look and feel." Mr Oakley climbed Kilimanjaro last year and has ambitions to tackle the Sahara as part of the world's most gruelling six-day race. You can read more about him in next week's Talking Business page.

BOSS: Gavin Oakley

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Patience pays off to Mutual benefit after four years

A MAJOR victory over a change in the law has been won by Tunbridge Wells-based Reliance Mutual Insurance Society – and it allows the company to begin completing a four-year-old multi-million pound deal.

By **TONY PATEY**
Business Editor

A small part of the 2004 deal was held up because of the way the law at that time covered tax-exempt business transferred from a friendly society to an insurance company.

At that time, Reliance Mutual bought from Brighton-based Family Investments 23,500 policies representing £260 million of funds under management, leaving behind 1,600 policies covering assets worth £13.5m, all because legislation did not allow any tax-exempt friendly society business to retain its tax exemption when transferred to an insurance company.

So the insurance giant started lobbying and its persistence paid off. As a result, that restrictive legislation was amended in the Finance Act 2007 enabling the polices left behind to now be transferred. It is scheduled for completion on July 31, subject to the agreement of Family Investments' members and Financial Services Authority approval.

John Reeve, chief executive of Family Investments, said: "I am pleased that we have successfully argued for the law to be clarified. In doing so we have been able to protect the interests of the transferring policyholders and, subject to their agreement at our annual meeting this month, we will finally be able to complete the deal."

Commenting on the latest transfer, part of the Reliance Mutual's seventh acquisition in five years, Mark Goodale, chief executive, said: "Over the last five years we have established a sound reputation in the acquisition of small and medium-sized blocks of business.

"Any organisation which finds itself with a particular block of business that no longer fits its core activities, or wishing to raise additional capital, should talk to us.

"With the recent legal tax changes in tax-exempt business this may be particularly relevant for any friendly society facing pressures on its financial resources."

Tax system working group 'needs teeth'

CHANCELLOR Alistair Darling's new working group of UK businesses and government to look at the long-term challenges facing the UK tax system was welcomed by Brian Jackson, head of tax at KPMG in Kent, but he said it needed teeth.

He said: "We welcome the initiative's intention of providing the long-term certainty that multi-national companies need as crucial.

"We are fully supportive and ready to do what we can to help.

"And we would urge business to take this opportunity to engage in a constructive way.

"But it must be more than a talking shop. Action is required, and quickly. As the Chancellor acknowledges, the first priority must be to address the enormous level of concern around the proposed changes to the way in which the UK taxes overseas earnings.

"The sheer level of complexity in the system is the other major problem for multi-nationals."

KOS backs service awards

A SCHEME which aims to get utility companies and service providers to work better is just coming up to its first anniversary and celebrating in style with a high-profile awards event sponsored by KOS Media, ***writes Business Editor Tony Patey***.

The Kent and Medway Considerate Corporate Scheme (CCS), which follows a code of good practice, challenges firms to improve their service and to work in a safe, consistent and considerate manner.

Being a national scheme owned by the Highway Authorities and Utilities Committee, the CCS already has 12 utility companies on board and hopes to attract more after its first annual awards ceremony.

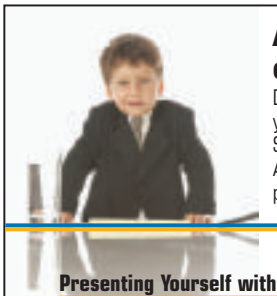
The event, which is being held on June 9 at Oakwood House, in Maidstone, aims to attract senior members of staff from organisations which are members of the scheme, to battle it out for the coveted CCS Gold Award.

There are five awards and the winners will be decided upon by analysis of site safety checks, which have been carried out by specially trained personnel over the past year.

The prizes range from the Gold and Silver Awards, to Considerate Contactor, Best Site and Most Improved utility company or service provider. A panel of judges from within the industry and representatives from disability groups working in and around the county are sorting out the winners.

A KOS Media spokesman said: "We are pleased to be involved in this scheme and believe it will improve the level of service provided by utility companies and contractors working within Kent and Medway."

The scheme also has the support of regional news broadcaster Geoff Clark, who will be acting as Master of Ceremonies at the awards event.



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ADVERTISING FEATURE

Hadlow College offers you opportunities

Apprenticeship has been a traditional form of training for thousands of years.

During the Medieval period, apprenticeship generally began in the teens and lasted for up to ten years. Way before then, even the Druids had a nine-year apprenticeship.

Choice played a very small part and it was quite common for youngsters to be more-or-less drafted into a craft or the decision made by dint of a father's involvement in an industry - and affluent connections were a significant factor.

Formal contracts – indenture papers – were the norm and the guilds generally required a bond that acted as a guarantee of the apprentice's satisfactory progress.

Apprentices frequently lived in their apprentice master's household and it was fairly common for them to marry a member of his family. On the whole the system worked very well although cases of abuse involving apprentices stealing from their masters - or masters making use of apprentices as free labour to undertake menial tasks – sometimes arose.

What goes around comes around. Although in recent years apprenticeships have been in decline in the UK, now an important revival is underway.

Employers recognise the benefit of having a skilled workforce and employees welcome the chance to gain formal qualifications that will increase opportunity for career progression while doing a job for which they are paid.

The employed apprentice is also afforded opportunity to achieve a Key Skills Certificate, a First Aid Certificate and an additional qualification relevant to the sector in which he or she works.

Hadlow College offers a wide range of courses leading to City and Guilds (the examining body) NVQ qualifications. These include Horse Care and Management in the college's superbly appointed equine yard with opportunity to work with a wide range of horses and involvement in regular events and shows.

Those working in the agriculture sector have opportunity to gain NVQs in practical skills associated with livestock and crops. Floristry is a popular option, especially among women returning to work after a period spent raising a family, and the Hadlow NVQ course concentrates on the development of practical floristry and the skills associated with the retail sector.

Career opportunities in horticulture are expanding and Hadlow offers opportunity to gain NVQ qualifications relating to Production Horticulture, Sports Turf, Landscape, Fencing and Garden Construction and Management. The Customer Service and the Retail NVQs develop skills for work within the customer services industry and the Animal Care NVQ is a well recognised qualification for those working in a wide range of animal-related sectors.

For more information about Hadlow College apprenticeship opportunities, contact Mike Dodd on 01732 853161 or 07866 705019.

Julian joins George in a field of their own

A CLIENT farmer of Tunbridge Wells-based solicitors Cripps Harries Hall – "George" – asked the firm to review auction particulars of the adjoining arable farm.

His neighbour had decided to retire and had been advised to sell before April 5.

Although similar local land had sold last year for £4,500 per acre, George decided he could go as far as £7,000 per acre. But at the auction it went to "Julian" in the City for a record £10,000 per acre.

After the auction, Julian asked George if he would contract-farm the land for him, and George agreed.

Julian would provide working capital and carry the risk of crop failures. Cripps prepared the contract farming agreement.

Julian explained that his intention was to retain the farm for his children. After two years the property would qualify for 100 per cent inheritance tax relief.

He had no immediate plans for the farmhouse but intended spending some money on improving it and making it more substantial.

Also, he planned to develop the modest shoot on the farm and have his friends down for a few days each season.

Julian said he had paid rather a high price for the farm but he had subsidised it by using capital gains tax savings from the sale of part of his business in the City. In the next monthly article in this series, we look at what weaknesses there are in Julian's plan and how he can best structure the arrangements to ensure that his plan is most effective.

Contact Peter Scott, Partner, Cripps Harries Hall, 01892 506292.

Damrong serves up dream book

ONE of Kent's most successful restaurant businesses has its roots way back in a village in rural Thailand.

It was there that a young Damrong Garbutt learned her cooking skills, and now she and husband Tim run Ramsgate's Surin restaurant, serving Thai, Cambodian and Lao food.

They're both foodies, but they're also very cute businesspeople. Just as they received an award at the UK Thai Embassy a fortnight ago for being one of the top 10 Thai restaurants in England, they produced a recipe book featuring Damrong's favourite dishes from her restaurant and the Far East.

Damrong wrote the book because customers kept asking her for recipes. A feature of the book is 'Damrong's Dream' where she details some of the ideas, such as the Surin curry sauce range she would like to create.

The 80-page, full-colour recipe book is published by Surin for £9.99, with £1 being donated to her Surin charity. Copies available from Surin and website www.surin-restaurant.co.uk.

Damrong has worked in the Nipa Thai at Lancaster Gate Hotel, near Hyde Park, and Chaopraya, near Bond Street, which is England's oldest Thai restaurant.

She has also cooked for the Thai royal family and featured in cooking magazines such as Waitrose.

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Kent's favourite thirst-quencher is still bubbling

TOP OF THE POP: Executive director Geoffrey Ludlow wants to raise the profile of Silver Spring

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

MENTION Bing in Kent and you're guaranteed a smile – everyone knows it. The soft drink is widely consumed in the county but little known outside. Everyone knows who makes Bing – Silver Spring. But, and here's the problem executive director **Geoffrey Ludlow** is now tackling, not everyone knows Silver Spring is the largest family-owned independent soft drinks maker in the country. Mr Ludlow is now launching a new drive to put the Folkestone-based company firmly on the business radar. It was founded in 1870 to meet rising demand for carbonated waters and its nearby spring was used by the Romans. Bing is unique, but the company also produces drinks which are known everywhere. Although many are generic – cola and mineral water – many of its brands, such as the Perfectly Clear range, are recognised nationwide. As part of its higher profile the company – which employs 260 people over 14 acres of production and distribution – it is supporting the Subaru World Rally Team in the 2008 championship. Mr Ludlow spoke to KOS Media's Business Editor Tony Patey.

Q Tell us about Bing, and give us an idea of your distribution network?

A Bing, traditional and very local to this area, was based in Canterbury, with its own production facilities at Broad Oak. We took it over in 1973.

We deliver to wholesalers as well as direct, to places such as pubs, clubs and cornershops. However, we have about 50 to 100 trucks a day coming here, sometimes more than 100 at the height of the summer.

Q The company still has a local feel to it, but I believe it has been an industry pioneer in the past?

A In the early 1980s we were one of the first to move to plastic PET bottle production, and right from the start we made our own pre-forms and bottles and caps, which is still unusual today. Pre-forms are the injection-moulded first stages of bottle production and the whole process starts with small polythene granules.

Q What is your position in the market at the moment?

A There are other companies out there making their own drinks, such as Coca-Cola and Pepsi, and others producing own-labels for the supermarkets. We are a little bit different in that we produce our own range and also for the supermarkets.

We want to follow a business model where we develop both areas of the business. The industry has gone through a real shake-up and rationalisation over the last few years which has been caused by intense pressure from the supermarkets to reduce prices, so we have gone from 11 or nine players down to three, and our two competitors are both multinationals – Mitsubishi and the North American Cott Corporation. They both have several sites in this country – not in Kent. We feel our future and location fits in very well with the current thinking with regard to reducing food miles and carbon emissions.

Q With that in mind, what is the new initiative to give Silver Spring a higher profile?

A We are bringing in some different ideas about the way we present ourselves and market ourselves, and we're trying to position ourselves better in the market.

There's a move to look at our own brands and we're in the process of revamping them. I think it would be fair to say that we had concentrated on the own-label production for supermarkets and we maybe didn't respect our own brands as we should have done.

That is now is being redressed. We are investing in six new trucks, taking on six new people and restructuring how we deliver. It used to be very much a 'shop on wheels' in the local round but now it is going to a much slicker operation, and we're rolling it out further.

We're aiming to have a distribution network to shops, pubs and clubs right throughout Kent, Sussex and into London. There are plans for a visitor centre here.

Q Are you rebranding?

A Not rebranding but freshening up the brand. We want to emphasise that we are a British company and we have been a market leader for a long time. Over the last few years we've suffered a lot of competition from the French.

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Three tips to keep your credit under control

MANY people use credit cards, even when they're starting up in business.

That's not strictly a good idea, but when money is tight because of a gap in cash flow during a month it's tempting to go for the easy option.

If you don't pay off the balance in full every month or you don't cough up big amounts, you'll face interest being slapped on every month.

To tackle the problem some good ideas have been floated by Sarah Modlock on the Yahoo! Finance website.

Here's a summary of three excellent tips which people will find extremely useful:

• Your credit card bill may include several different types of debt – for purchases, for cash withdrawals and for any balance you have transferred from another card.

With most card issuers you're not paying one rate of interest. And the card company will not use your repayments to reduce the most expensive type of debt on your card.

For example, if you have transferred a £2,000 balance onto your card at 0 per cent and then withdrew £100 at 28 per cent and spent a further £1,000 on purchases at 15.9 per cent your monthly repayment will usually be used to pay off the transferred balance first, leaving the interest to build up on the cash withdrawal and purchase balances. Avoid the trap by using two different cards for balance transfers and purchases.

Avoid using your credit card to make cash withdrawals unless it is a dire emergency. Not only are you likely to be charged a very high rate of interest, but you will incur other charges such as a handling fee. You also start accruing interest immediately.

• Although card issuers have now been forced to cap late payment fees at £12, these can easily be avoided by setting up a regular payment, but there is a down side to direct debit.

Most lenders present you with a direct debit form which is pre-filled for the dreaded minimum payment or agrees to pay the entire balance in full, which you may not be able to afford.

Avoid the trap by entering in the fixed amount you can afford every month. If the minimum payment is not met by direct debit every month and then make additional payments by cheque, cash or bank.

• Many people repay only the monthly minimum payment, but they'll be paying off the debt for ages and it's expensive.

Just paying a few pounds more a month can dramatically cut the overall time it will take to clear your debt and save money.

Currently, seven out of 10 credit card providers have their minimum repayment requirements set at less than three per cent, and more than a third are set at just two per cent.

For example, on an average balance of £2,950.82 a consumer would pay £2,200 less in interest if they repaid three per cent rather than two per cent each month, and they would repay the full debt almost 15 years earlier.

Avoid the trap by paying by paying at least three per cent.

Are you losing interest in your bad debtors?

TAKE AN INTEREST: Furley Page Solicitors' debt recovery specialist Martin Kingman

EXPERT COMMENT

By **MARTIN KINGMAN**

Debt recovery specialist, Furley Page Solicitors

WITH the arrival of the credit crunch and the tightening of available credit to businesses, now more than ever cashflow is essential to ensure long-term growth and short-term survival.

According to a Federation of Small Businesses study, one-in-four firms fail due to interruptions in cash flow. So why aren't more companies taking advantage of the Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest) Act – introduced in 1998 and fully operational since August 2002?

Unlike other statutory provisions (the County Court Act and the Supreme Court Act), the LPCD Act allows you to claim interest on amounts that are outstanding for more than 30 days without resorting to legal proceedings. Interest is payable at eight per cent per annum above the Bank of England base rate. The Act gives two computation dates per year – June 30 and December 31 – so whatever the Bank of England base rate is on those dates fixes the interest rate for the next six months.

Currently, interest stands at 13.5 per cent (5.5 per cent plus eight per cent) which means that businesses can claim 13.5 per cent on all invoices that are more than 30 days outstanding. And as well as the interest, the Act specifies compensation which is payable on a set scale depending on the level of debt.

On sums up to £1,000 compensation is £40; from £1,000 -£10,000 it's £70; and on all outstanding bills over £10,000 it's £100. Although the Act is only valid for business-to-business contracts, it can be used to promote quick paying and gives your company the best possible chance of survival. Isn't it time you sought advice? For more information contact Martin Kingman on 01643 828277 or email mpk@furley-page.co.uk.

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Movers & Shakers

ECOLOGIA Environmental Solutions, the environmental consultancy and specialist remediation company, has hit the half century with its jobs.

The eight-year-old firm, based at Kent Science Park, has just appointed Dr Anne Padfield, its 50th employee, as a project manager.

The company also has a further three vacancies, the result of an increase in demand for its services. Managing director Giacomo Maini, pictured with Dr Padfield, said: "Landowners and developers are always looking for ways to increase the value of their land and property, especially if they can be redeveloped for house building. Our services are a cost-effective way of realising their aspirations by removing contaminants and preparing the ground for reuse."

Dr Padfield gained a PhD in environmental science at the University of Greenwich's Centre for Contaminated Land Remediation.

A SPECIALIST employment law solicitor who trained as a barrister has been appointed by Furley Page.

Tom Dawson, 30, who lives in Canterbury, joins the firm's employment team where he advises on employment law issues including whistle-blowing, dismissals, discrimination, contract disputes, redundancy and business transfers.

Tom is a member of the Employment Lawyers' Association, the Law Society, the Bar Council and the Inner Temple. He said: "Being at the client-facing end of the legal profession is what I find the most challenging. It's where I feel I can make a difference."

A pupil at Tonbridge's Judd School, Tom graduated from Manchester University in history and philosophy before attending London's BPP Law School for his post-graduate diploma in law, and bar vocational course. In his spare time Tom studies languages and enjoys running and cooking.

WHITSTABLE teenager Jack Kilburn has set his sights on sailing away with Olympic glory.

The 17-year-old member of Whitstable Yacht Club is hoping to make the grade for the Games either in 2012 in London or the 2016 event.

And to help with his training and progression, Kings Hill-based Vertex Law has agreed to sponsor Jack and have provided him with a cheque towards his competition expenses.

The Faversham Queen Elizabeth Grammar School pupil has been sailing for most of his life and competes in the Laser class.

From there Jack, who is hoping to attend Southampton or Loughborough University after his A levels, aims to progress through to the national squads and on to Olympic standard. He has just returned from Florida where he took part in a training camp with the British Paralympics team.

Jack is pictured (above right) flanked by Rebecca Tinham and Robert Dodgson of Vertex Law.

STAGECOACH in East Kent and Hastings has promoted former schools liaison officer Tim Pomfret to the newly-created position of customer services manager.

Mr Pomfret, who has worked within the bus industry in the south east for 42 years (including 25 years with the regions schools) will be supported by an assistant to continue to oversee the school bus operations provided to the education authorities, as well as respond to customer suggestions and complaints on the network of more than 100 routes provided daily from the six depots in the region.

He said: "The new role is just part of the company's determination to be more reactive and supportive to both customers and staff who either experience problems or can see ways of improving the facilities and services we provide."

He will continue to be based at the company's regional administration centre at Canterbury bus station.

BILL Laidlaw, sales director for SeaFrance, is celebrating his 35th year in the ferry industry, having spent over 40 years in shipping.

He began his career working as an office boy for P&O Ferries, and he has since been assigned to a number of high-profile shipping projects, including setting up a fast ferry service for Qatar Shipping between Doha, Bahrain and Dubai.

Between 1984 and 1994, Bill worked as managing director of Sealink Newhaven-Dieppe Ferries. He set up SeaFrance in 1995 when Newhaven-Dieppe Ferries withdrew from the Sealink British Ferries pool.

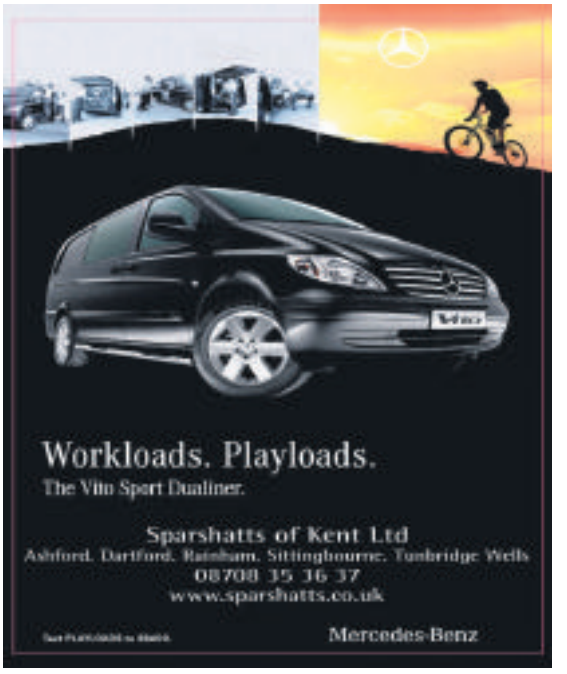
Mr Laidlaw was virtually given a blank sheet of paper by SeaFrance to set up the UK arm of the French operator, which in the past 10 years has grown from just one member of staff to nearly 200 employees, operating a fleet of six ferries, including superferries the SeaFrance Berlioz and the SeaFrance Rodin.

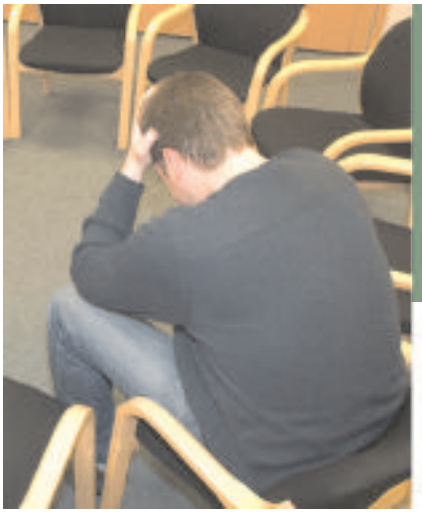
He said: "I've seen fantastic growth in the ferry market and new ships which have lifted the industry beyond anybody's expectations."

LAW firm Girlings Solicitors has appointed two new partners, Dan Sherlock and Chris Trim.

Mr Trim, right, who joined Girlings in 2007, has more than 30 years' experience of agricultural, commercial and residential property matters. He works with the firm's domestic property team at Girlings' Folkestone office.

Mr Sherlock, left, qualified in 2001 and joined Girlings' Canterbury office as an assistant solicitor two years ago. A specialist in litigation, he deals with a wide range of issues including high value commercial contractual disputes and landlord and tenant matters on behalf of business and individual clients. Girlings has 26 partners and offices in Ashford, Canterbury, Folkestone, Herne Bay and Margate.





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Data sting warning

By **TONY PATEY**
Business Editor

KENT businesses which deal with a recruitment company caught in a "sting" operation over data which belonged to another firm have been alerted they could face being in contempt of court and going to prison.

The warning comes after a High Court order was made against a firm started by two ex-employees of Tudor Personnel in Surrey, which has clients and contractors in Kent.

The order states that neither Roy Webb nor Anna Faratro, the two ex-Tudor employees, can work in the oil and gas recruitment industry for the next 12 months. Any breach of this order will be taken as contempt of court.

Judge Waksman QC said that should any other person who knows of the notice and deals with their company, Alpha Oil & Gas Jobs Ltd, and Mr Webb or Mrs Faratro, helping or permitting them to breach the terms of the order, they too could be held in contempt of court and face jail.

The legal battle began just weeks after Mr Webb left Tudor last February and was faced with a team of forensic computer experts sent by his former employers, accompanied by an independent solicitor. They had a High Court order allowing forensic images to be taken of computers and other electronic equipment.

Mr Webb had apparently earned a six-figure sum working as a senior recruitment consultant in the specialist oil and gas recruitment industry for Tudor, owned by Glasgow-based First People Solutions Limited.

He had worked for Tudor for more than 14 years, and he had apparently stated an intention to work in property. FPSG became suspicious when it found vast quantities of information had been deleted from his computer. Key clients of Tudor had also apparently been contacted by him to say that he had set up elsewhere in competition with his former employers. Mrs Faratro had joined him.

Surveillance experts posed as start-up sandwich sellers and made an appointment to go and talk to Mr Webb and Mrs Faratro to offer their services at Alpha's offices in Sutton.

A covert recording was made, and as a result forensic computer specialists examined computers belonging to Mr Webb and Mrs Faratro when they were still employed by Tudor.

As a result evidence of unusual and unexplained activity on these computers coupled with the surveillance evidence, a High Court judge made an order for imaging of equipment at Alpha's offices to be made.

FPSG said the evidence obtained showed that Tudor's client and candidate database had been copied and it was with this stolen information that Mr Webb had set up Alpha.

FPSG's managing director John Hailstone said: "We supported Roy and Anna at Tudor, increasing their earnings and careers significantly.

"We bought Tudor Personnel on the basis of the strength of their clients and contacts list and to knowingly steal and sabotage this information is disgraceful.

"The severity of this order reflects the magnitude of their wrongdoings and the intent to directly harm our business."

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Bank's green agenda

ONE in three businesses in Kent sees the green agenda as an opportunity, according to Barclays Bank, which has branches across the county and is now putting its money where its mouth is.

It is one of the first banks to put its head above the parapet after the credit squeeze to begin going high-profile again with loans.

Barclays is offering loans from a £50 million pot that give businesses a cashback payment when they take out finance for initiatives benefiting the environment.

Working in partnership with the European Investment Bank, Barclays is offering cashback payments ranging from £600 to £51,000 for a range of capital expenditure projects costing between £200,000 to £17m, whether they are low-carbon plants or machinery, or relocation to more energy efficient premises.

Roger Cowap, area corporate director for Barclays, said: "Research shows that 30 per cent of companies in the South East now see the green agenda as an opportunity rather than a challenge.

"We are committed to supporting customers who are reducing their environmental impact and this scheme will further encourage sustainable business practices by reducing the cost of borrowing."

The scheme is available for loans between £100,000 and £8.5 million, with a minimum term of five years. It must support a capital investment project that has not previously received EIB benefit, and is applicable to businesses with fewer than 250 staff. Go to www.barclayscommercial.com/environment for further guidance on environmental issues.

MORTGAGE RATES

RT: Rate type **R%:** Rate percentage **L:** Loan **U:** Until **OD:** Other details

FIXED

ABBEY
RT: FIXED **R%:** 5.92% **L:** 75% **U:** 02/08/2013
OD: £1,499 ARRANGEMENT

BRISTOL & WEST
RT: FIXED **R%:** 5.99% **L:** 75% **U:** 31/05/2011
OD: £1,000 ARRANGEMENT

ABBEY
RT: FIXED **R%:** 6.10% **L:** 75% **U:** 02/08/2011
OD: £999 ARRANGEMENT

PRINCIPALITY
RT: FIXED **R%:** 6.19% **L:** 75% **U:** 2 YEARS
OD: £1,000 ARRANGEMENT

OTHER

PRINCIPALITY
RT: DISCOUNTED **R%:** 5.94% **L:** 75% **U:** 30/04/2010
OD: £2,000 ARRANGEMENT

ALLIANCE & LEICESTER
RT: TRACKER **R%:** 5.89% (BASE RATE + 0.99%)
L: 75% **U:** 2 YEARS **OD:** £2,000 ARRANGEMENT

ABBEY
RT: TRACKER **R%:** 6.02% (BASE RATE + 1.02%)
L: 90%
U: 2 YEARS **OD:** £999 ARRANGEMENT

KENT RELIANCE
RT: DISCOUNTED **R%:** 6.09% **L:** 75%
U: 2 YEARS **OD:** £335 ARRANGEMENT

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Hemingway's earnest love of open space

POCKET PARK: Wayne Hemingway (left) and Jeremy Kite cut the ribbon as The Bridge residents make good use of the development's communal open space

WAYNE Hemingway is best known for leading fashion label Red or Dead – but not many people know he's also a town planner and has been working his magic in Dartford.

He took a degree in geography and town planning at London's University College – and since selling his fashion brand in a multi-million pound sale he's been working on his first love and become a high-profile environment designer.

Recently Mr Hemingway was with more than 40 of the pioneer residents at The Bridge, Dartford, celebrating with a big barbecue the opening of the first completed community green space at the site.

This is one of several 'pocket parks' to be included in the initial phase of development at The Bridge, where residents enjoy not only the green space, but the use of a brick-built barbie.

Mr Hemingway, who is designing the homes with his wife Gerardine, in collaboration with architects Broadway Malyan, was there to cut the ribbon along with Jeremy Kite, leader of Dartford Borough Council.

"Outside space is often overlooked in developments and communal space is barely thought about," said Mr Hemingway.

"But at The Bridge, pocket parks are an extension of residents' gardens and, as our first barbecue proves, they can bring a site alive.

"New residents talked and ate together while children played around them. This new community is well under way."

Part of the Dutch 'homezone' concept that is being applied throughout the development, pocket parks are landscaped spaces that act as focal points for a cluster of homes.

They offer a communal space for people to enjoy their surroundings. The first phase at The Bridge includes three of these parks.

More than 75 per cent of homes in the first phase have already sold, with 47 still available, ranging from one-bedroom apartments from £154,995 and four-bedroom properties from £274,995.

The Bridge is a £500 million mixed-use regeneration project that is being developed as a joint venture with Dartford council and ProLogis Developments. TaylorWimpey is building 1,134 homes, transforming the 264-acre brownfield site.

Along with 1.8 million sq ft of business space and 1,500 homes, The Bridge will include a range of innovative facilities, such as a learning and community campus and the award-winning Fastrack public transport system, to create a lively neighbourhood where people will want to live, work and bring up their families.

The homezone concept originated in the Netherlands in the 1970s, where it is known as Woonerf, or 'living yard'. A homezone is a residential street or group of streets where the living environment has precedence over traffic, opening up the streets for social activity.

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Fleet seize their chance to shine

Club to cash in on Wembley victory

By GLENN PEARSON

KENT'S big day out, that's how it was labelled. While the majority of the county were consumed with Radio 1's music festival in Maidstone, Ebbsfleet took centre stage of their own gig at Wembley.

It was Ebbsfleet's chance to make their name not just across the country, but in Kent too, and they didn't disappoint.

Ebbsfleet fans littered the bottom tier of the 'new' Wembley in a sea of red – a colour that will no doubt become synonymous with the stadium over the coming years, if Manchester United and Liverpool's ability to feature in a final is to continue.

Although the upper tiers were empty, apart from a handful of Fleet fans in one of the top corners, the new stadium provided an excellent atmosphere. The buzz just before the players were preparing to come onto the pitch had the hairs on the back of your neck standing up, Fleet fan or not.

For the club's young players – the average age of the squad is 21 – it was the pinnacle of the careers, but perhaps more importantly, the start of an adventure for website-owned Ebbsfleet United.

Like Deal Town and Gillingham before them, Ebbsfleet profited from a heavy Kent contingent who occupied the lion's share of the 25,000 that outweighed Torquay's fan base.

However, the club, who average about 1,000 through the gate at Stonebridge Road, hope their endeavours will attract a proportion of those other 24,000 that followed them to Wembley.

Manager Liam Daish said in his press conference after the game that it would be disappointing if their exploits hadn't put them on the Kent football map.

He said: "Hopefully, there is going to be a kick on and they are going to want to come back for more and get season tickets. It would be disappointing if the first game of the season was at home and they will have all gone. It would be nice to get up to the 2,000 mark because if you look at the teams looking to get into the Football League, their gates help them get there."

Pictures: ADY KERRY

GLORY DAYS: Ebbsfleet's players celebrate on the Wembley turf after their historic win in the FA Trophy final

As for the game itself, it was more of an old-fashioned cup tie than a cup final. It ebbed and flowed with chances at both ends – a fantastic advert for the Conference.

Ebbsfleet looked nervous and that, coupled with their inability to come to terms with the greasy Wembley surface, made for an edgy start from the Kent team.

Then it came, the Fleet's big chance. Luke Moore made a dash into the Torquay box where he cleverly escaped the clutching hands of goalkeeper Martin Rice. However, the striker did enough to entice the goalkeeper into clipping his legs and a penalty was awarded.

The Torquay fans behind the goal did their best to put off former Gull star Chris McPhee, and it worked. The young midfielder seemed to slice across the ball rather than hit it with any venom, making it a relatively easy save for the Torquay stopper who rectified his earlier mistake.

However, the 25-year-old Fleet star soon made amends for his error and in perfect style. Eighteen-year-old John Akinde justified his position in the team when he chased down a lost cause as the ball seemed to be heading out for a goal kick. He jostled with Torquay's Chris Todd on the by-line before centring a cross for McPhee to slide in at the back post.

Thunder and lightning made an entrance for the second half and it seemed to wake the Kent faction of Wembley up from their slumber.

A cacophony of noise engulfed the stadium to give the game the attention it deserved. Forget tense clashes where two managers battle against each other as if puppeteers, orchestrating events as though they were at the Globe, it was a true final, full of grit and determination intertwined with a bit of skill for good measure.

Torquay had chances in the second half, but there was an inevitability that Ebbsfleet would win and the way they closed the game out will give Daish heart for next season.

Watching the Kent fans celebrate at the final whistle was a picture and a fitting end to the season.

Ebbsfleet's adventure continues.

CAPTAIN Paul McCarthy hailed the FA Trophy win as his biggest moment of his 19-year career and believes the squad can achieve promotion to the Football League.

The central defender (right) was key, using his experience in closing down the game during the final 10 minutes.

The big defender marshalled his troops well and gave a performance that will justify Liam Daish's decision to keep him on for another year at Stonebridge Road.

The Irishman was a proud man lifting the FA Trophy and even ran a lap of honour to show off the cup.

He said: "I am very proud, it was a fantastic day. The supporters really got behind us. We hung on at the end and deservedly won it. It is the best moment of my career and to come away from Wembley as a winner, I do not think you can top it."

The 36-year-old hopes the team can build on their success to gain promotion to the Football League next season for the first time in the club's history.

Preparation key to helping Daish realise Trophy dream

EBBSFLEET United boss Liam Daish revealed he went to play golf the day before his club's first-ever appearance at Wembley because he was so happy with his side's preparation.

The Fleet boss (pictured) described his side's 1-0 win over Torquay United in the FA Trophy final as "unbelievable" and hopes it will be a sign of things to come for the Kent club.

He said: "It is unbelievable really. I thought it was an achievement for a club like ours to get to a major final like this and I thought we were always going to have a good day out and the fans would have a good day out. To actually win it and lift a major trophy for a club our size, has not really sunk in yet."

The former Birmingham, Coventry and Republic of Ireland defender was so confident his players would perform on the big stage that he felt comfortable enough to unwind before the final.

He said: "Sometimes you look back and think 'I could have done that better' but the last session at Bisham Abbey just went really well, everything went smoothly and to plan and I came away from that last session and I thought 'that will do me'.

"We couldn't get any better preparation and I thought I would go and find a golf course because I was so at ease with how we had shaped up leading in."

Daish saw his side start slowly, but grow as the game went on.

He said: "We had to get our bearings and we had to get that period where we had to find our feet a little bit, but after that, for 15-20 minutes on we started feeling comfortable in the stadium and the occasion and started to get a bit of momentum.

"Then we started to dictate and fair play, we came back from missing a penalty and scored a decent goal."

FLEET star Chris McPhee dedicated the FA Trophy final to his ill sister after scoring the winning goal at Wembley.

McPhee (right) netted the winner on the stroke of half-time, redeeming himself after having missed a penalty five minutes earlier.

The victory had a different meaning for the Ebbsfleet midfielder who dedicated the victory to his sister who suffers from ME, as she managed to make the trip against all odds.

He said: "There was a message on my shirt saying '4 U sis'. It was a dedication to my sister who originally was not going to be able to make it because she has ME. It's emotional for me that she was here to see me play at Wembley and score the winning goal."

Minutes after the final whistle, the 25-year-old found it hard to come to terms with his team becoming the 2008 FA Trophy champions.

He said: "We turned up at Wembley to walk out to the national anthem and there were thousands of fans, it was amazing and I couldn't believe it."

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Improvements to be made, but we are on right track

Picture: ADY KERRY

Inside view With ROB KEY

After a slow start to the season, Kent's captain is pleased with the way his team has started to perform and feels things bode well for the future

THESE are exciting times. That's how I feel at the moment as we enter a crucial phase of the season, with this Kent side really beginning to show everyone just how strong a unit we are.

I can't tell you how delighted I was to see the team earn themselves two magnificent victories while I was away at the Rose Bowl captaining England Lions against the New Zealanders.

Obviously that was an important week in my own career, as I try to get myself back into Test cricket, but I also had more than one eye on how the boys were doing against Nottinghamshire at Trent Bridge in the county championship and then at home to Sussex last Sunday in the Friends Provident.

It was unlucky, really, to draw Notts away when they had both Ryan Sidebottom – clearly the best bowler in England over the past year – and Stuart Broad available. The Kent team up there also had to do without me (they clearly missed me!) and cope with two or three of our frontline batsmen still struggling a bit for early-season form.

Then, of course, on top of everything, we were five for four in our first innings against a side who, at Canterbury in our first championship game of the season, we had given a bit of a start to by not playing to our potential.

So, to win from there and chase down a challenging fourth innings target was an extraordinary effort.

Ryan McLaren and Yasir Arafat really did the business, with bat and ball, and Ryan in particular got his reward for an enormous amount of work he had put in with our coach Graham Ford following a disappointing start to the summer.

Ryan was very honest with himself after those first couple of games and simply went away with Fordy and was determined to get things right. How all that hard work paid off.

It was fitting that both Ryan and Yasir were batting at the end, having put together a great eighth wicket stand to clinch the game. Actually, perhaps the most difficult thing I've had to do so far this season is to tell players like McLaren and Arafat that they are batting down at numbers nine and 10.

Obviously both of them want to bat higher up the order and if they played for any other county they would be higher.

But such is our current batting strength and depth that they've had to go in very low down, which I suppose is a great bonus for us, but it doesn't make it any easier for the players concerned to cope with.

But, overall, I'm just happy that we seem to be batting and bowling far better in recent weeks than we did at the beginning of the season.

We still have a significant amount of improvement to make, though, as a team and as individuals, and that is what excites me most.

I'm not going to go out on a limb and say we are definitely going to win more trophies this year, to go with our Twenty-20 Cup success last summer, but what I will say is that we should be challenging extremely strongly on all fronts.

In the Friends Provident Trophy, for instance, we would be selling ourselves short if we don't finish in the top two in our group and qualify for the quarter-finals. I believe we are easily among the top eight one-day teams in the country – but now it's down to us to prove that.

In the championship, too, the next couple of matches are incredibly important, starting against a strong Somerset side at Tunbridge Wells this coming week.

I'm not sure that Andrew Caddick will make the game, which will be good for us, but they still have a lot of very good cricketers and, in Marcus Trescothick and Justin Langer, they have two batsmen who are truly world-class.

IN the past four Tunbridge Wells festival weeks, I have personally scored 781 runs at an average of 111.57, with three centuries and a 98 not out when we beat Warwickshire in 2006. I just hope there are a few more runs to come for me yet at the Nevill.

I could certainly do with a couple of decent scores after my England Lions appearance, where I got two good starts but didn't go on. A 20 and a 30 wasn't a disaster, but I felt I was playing well in each innings and you need big scores if the England selectors are really going to sit up and take notice.

Having said that, I enjoyed the match and the job of captaining a Lions team with some very talented young players like Luke Wright and Adil Rashid, and some more established and highly-experienced guys like Chris Tremlett and Matthew Hoggard.

It was also good to get the chance to sit down and chat at some length with Peter Moores, the England head coach, and the selectors. They were very encouraging to me, and that is very pleasing.

But it's scoring runs that counts.

• ***Rob Key, the Kent captain and England batsman, is one of Kent on Sunday's regular sports columnists.***

MAKING STRIDES: Rob Key feels Kent will be challenging strongly for honours on all fronts

UNDER PRESURE: Batsman Matt Walker

Ford and Key face selection problem

KENT skipper Rob Key and coach Graham Ford head to Tunbridge Wells for the cricket festival next week with a selection dilemma.

After the three-wicket win against Nottinghamshire at Trent Bridge in the club's last county championship game, Kent go into their clash with Somerset on Wednesday with decisions to make on their starting XI.

Kent managed to beat Notts without their captain, who was away on England Lions duty, and Azhar Mahmood who was injured, but both are expected to be in the side to face Somerset.

It could mean Matt Walker, who has struggled for runs this summer with just 81 from eight knocks, an average of 11, in both the championship and Friends Provident Trophy, could be the man to make way.

Although Darren Stevens has also struggled for form, his medium-pace bowling could keep his place in the side.

It is also likely to be a straight battle between Robbie Joseph and Martin Saggers for the final seam bowling position.

Play starts at Tunbridge Wells at 11am. For regular updates from the Nevill Ground, visit www.kentnews.co.uk.

Delay in naming of training camps

THE London Organising Committee of the Olympic Games (LOCOG) has postponed the announcement of training camps for the 2012 Paralympics.

LOCOG was due to announce the list in London on Tuesday, with Kent expected to perform well.

Kent received 36 nominations for pre-Olympic camps when they were announced in March, more than any other county.

However, although the South East venues have been finalised, some regions are not complete, so the official unveiling has been delayed for a fortnight.

The new date is scheduled for May 28.

Venues announced on that day will go into a guide distributed to all other National Olympic Associations at the Beijing Olympics later this summer. The guide will be used by more than 200 countries to decide where they want to train ahead of the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

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WEMBLEY JOY
Ebbsfleet United make county proud by winning FA Trophy **70**

CRICKET
Kent captain Rob Key feels his team are on the up **71**

GILLS CAN COPE WITHOUT CULLIP

Boss remains upbeat as contract wrangle sees inspired signing depart

By **DAVID PRITCHARD**

GILLINGHAM boss Mark Stimson admits he is at a loss to explain why Danny Cullip changed his contract demands at the last minute, but believes the squad is strong enough to cope without him.

The 31-year-old left the club this week after failing to agree terms on a new deal, despite negotiating a one-year contract more than two months ago.

When the deal came to be signed earlier this month, the defender asked for another year. Stimson came back with a contract to keep Cullip at Priestfield until 2010, but it was dependent on him playing a minimum amount of games, which the defender rejected.

Stimson told Kent on Sunday he bore no grudge towards Cullip, who left the club on good terms, but admitted he was surprised by the decision.

He said: "Why he asked for the extra year I don't know. The club has its reasons why we didn't want to give him the extra year. You learn from your mistakes and we have still got people here on long contracts from before I arrived.

"On the one hand I can understand what he did, but also I can't because why didn't he ask for that at the start? I would not go back in and change my terms, but everyone is different."

Cullip joined Gills on a short-term deal in February after being released by QPR earlier in the season.

He only made 11 appearances for the club, but made an instant impact, winning the man-of-the-match award on his debut against Huddersfield.

The former Brighton captain's arrival saw Stimson switch from his favoured 4-4-2 to a 3-4-1-2 as he sought to get the best out of Cullip.

Despite this, the Gills boss chose to downplay the defender's influence.

He said: "We didn't lose many games with Danny in the team, but we didn't win many either. He was very good to have at the time. I don't know if he was one of my best signings, I would say some have been better and some worse so he's probably in the middle.

"At the time, putting Danny Cullip into the group bonded quite a few of the players. He was the link man between the older players who had been at the club for a while and the new boys because he was so vocal.

"We have got a pre-season to work together where we will find out about each other so that link is not as important as it was."

Although losing such an experienced campaigner is a blow to Gills' hopes of bouncing straight back into League One next season, Stimson said he was happy with the squad's depth.

With Gills reverting to a back four next season, Simon King and Garry Richards are likely to be first choice centre-backs. Mark Bentley has shown he can play at the heart of defence and Gills also have Tom Wynter, who will join up with the first team after promotion from the club's youth side.

As Cullip was leaving Priestfield, Gills were closing in on their first signing of the summer.

Stevenage Borough goalkeeper Alan Julian was at Priestfield for talks this week and could become the fifth player Stimson has signed from his old club.

With Kelvin Jack released and Derek Stillie retiring this month Gills need another goalkeeper.

Ironically, Julian turned down a new contract from Stimson when he was still manager at Stevenage, so is now available on a free transfer.

The Gills boss said: "We had a good chat and he loves the surroundings. He's talking to two other League One clubs, but our relationship before may sway him towards us. He's definitely someone with potential, for the last three years he's been the best goalkeeper outside the Football League."

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ON HIS WAY: Centre-back Danny Cullip who left the Gills this week
Picture: KEITH SLATER

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